

Birth Centenary Issue



ENGINEER PHILOSOPHER VISIONARY

Shri N. B. Hadker

13 September 1911 - 11 November 2003



Kandla Port - 1950



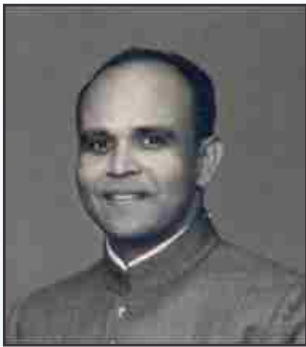
Koyana Dam - 1954



Indira Gandhi Stadium - 1982

Unforgettable Dada

- Kamal N Hadker



Dada in early 50's

Dada was born and brought up in Karachi in a middle class family with three older sisters. Right from his childhood days, he was very hard working and always gave credit to his parents who gave importance to education over materialistic needs and to his teachers for his disciplined upbringing. He gave a lot of attention to good handwriting and neatness in all his work. He grew up in cosmopolitan surroundings and had many Sindhi, Parsee, Christian and Muslim friends. He picked up many languages and spoke Gujarati very fluently.

In 1935, he graduated from N. E. D Engineering College in Karachi. He often remembered lessons learnt from professors like Mr. Junnarkar and Principal Gokhale who spoke flawless "King's English" in those days. "Stand erect, Look straight and Act" was the motto of his engineering college which he followed throughout his life....

Dada had an extremely impressive personality. He was six feet tall, handsome and physically fit. His first assignment after graduation was in Quetta which had just been devastated by a major earthquake. Dada was stationed in an area which was not only difficult to access but had little or no resources. However, he was not afraid of the tough working conditions and soon made friends with the local "Baluchis" and spoke broken "Pashtu".

On his return to Karachi, he joined McKenzies Engineering Company a premier construction company enjoying excellent reputation. This company did a lot of pioneering work in the field of civil engineering. He was transferred to Bombay in 1942. Several buildings constructed in South Bombay have been supported on precast concrete piles installed by McKenzies. Dada rose very rapidly in this company to become the Chief Engineer and came in close contact with several dignitaries, royalty, foreign architects and contractors.



1942 with my parents

Soon after independence, Dada resigned from McKenzies with the intention of starting his own practice. However, the Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai – U. M. Mirchandani who was his good friend, coaxed him to accept an assignment in Kutch. A new township named Gandhidham was to be set up near Kandla Port to accommodate refugees from Pakistan. Once again, Dada had to start from a scratch, constructing roads, culverts, all types of buildings, a railway station and allied civil engineering works in extremely hostile climatic conditions in Kutch.

On his return to Bombay in 1953 he started his own practice. Once again, he was persuaded to join Shah, Salzgitter and Jolly - a consortium of contractors - as Works Manager to lay the foundations of the ambitious Koyna Dam project. As I recollect, when I went to Koyna with Dada for the first time, I could simply see the tiny Koyna River flowing between mountain ranges covered with thick forests. This region was known to receive more than 300 inches of rain in the short period of four months! I remember having stayed in tents and carrying oil lanterns after sunset. In such challenging surroundings, Dada successfully completed the installation of sophisticated Plant and Machinery for production of pre-cooled concrete on a large scale and mechanized transportation of this concrete in buckets across the river using Cable-Crane. The German engineers, who brought in modern machinery, were surprised to see Dada mobilizing a huge workforce of local contractors from the neighboring villages, who deployed several donkeys. When the sophisticated machinery developed trouble due to non-availability of spare parts, the donkeys continued to deliver work at a slow but steady pace even during heavy rains and successfully completed earthwork in the difficult terrain! Besides, Dada developed a good rapport with the villagers all around and did not have any strikes or labour trouble on the site. This taught me some important lessons.



At the construction site of a bridge with parents

After overcoming all the initial hurdles and satisfactorily laying of foundations, the work for the construction of the dam walls commenced and continued like clockwork. At this stage, Dada decided to return to Mumbai.

The first pending item on his agenda was the construction of his own house in Bandra. In 1958, on the auspicious day of Dassera, we moved into the partly completed bungalow. This is now serving as our family residence as well as one of the offices of Sterling today. Thereafter, he focused his attention on developing his consultancy practice and was soon joined by Mr. M. B. Sabnis. Even before I graduated, Dada allowed me to spend time in the design office and at construction sites.

Dada gave me full freedom to choose my path and encouraged me to attend meetings with important clients, interact with senior architects and enjoy my work. Dada encouraged me to travel to UK on work permit to gain practical experience of working in British consultancy firms. In April 1967 he formed Hadker Prabhu and Associates – a partnership with Mr. Sudhakar Prabhu who, at that time, was keen on returning to India. Due to the fluctuating market conditions in India, Sudhu soon decided to return to UK. However, I returned to India and worked on building up our reputation on the solid foundation already laid by Dada.

There was a boom in the Middle East in the mid 70s. We decided to form a private limited company and named it STERLING to invite and encourage like-minded engineers to work under one roof and share the benefits. Dada often compared this concept with the formation of a “banyan tree”. The steady growth of Sterling is a result of his vision rooted in strong values.

Dada firmly believed in following professional ethics. In fact, Dada was a real “karma yogi”. For him, work was worship and he did not bother about rewards or recognition. We saw this quality in him very clearly during Indraprastha days. We were working in Delhi under tremendous pressure with limited resources, accommodating continuous changes in designs and issuing GFC drawings to meet seemingly impossible deadlines. When I came to know about a derogatory remark passed by one of the officers, I was ready to resign and walk away from the project. However, Dada consoled me and said, “Don't be perturbed by some insulting remarks made by ignorant people. Be honest to God and continue to do your work like worship. Nobody will be able to deprive you of the satisfaction you will gain in the end.” He was absolutely right!

Dada loved reading and often read out to the family members after dinner and sometimes to me while we drove to Fort office. He read editorials, articles, books on a variety of subjects - astrology and psychology were his favorite subjects! He had an excellent collection of dictionaries. He also listened to the BBC on radio very attentively to pick up the correct pronunciations.



At Kiran bungalow with Dada



At his desk in Fort office





used to give him immense pleasure. My wife Asha once aptly described him as “shreeman yogi”. I consider myself very fortunate to be the son of such a magnanimous and noble person.

Simplicity was one of his strongest virtues. At home, he was often seen polishing his shoes or stitching a button on his shirt. In the office many saw him handling a screwdriver or spanner to fix a door closer or a leaking tap. For him, nothing was below his dignity.

Dada did not join any gym or club, did not drink or play cards. He did not have any attraction towards luxuries or even normal comforts of life. When he was over 80 years of age, rather than using a car and driver, he preferred a brisk walk to the railway station. Travelling by train, he said, not only saved time but also kept him fit and agile. Occasionally he used to stop at a book store or even a wayside second hand book seller. With his keen observation he used to pick up some old expensive books at throw away prices. His favorite pastime was to record some passages from books and listen to those recordings again in his spare time. It

Birth Centenary Year

AT STERLING, WE HAVE A NUMBER OF EXCITING EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2012 TO COMMEMORATE THIS BIRTH CENTENARY YEAR

-  Guest Lecture Series – We will be inviting leading engineers, architects, consultants and experts in various fields related to Civil Engineering. These lectures will be held throughout the year and will be followed by discussion forums or workshops for the benefit of our technical team
-  Technical Presentations by Engineers – these will be presented by teams of our engineers. There will be internal as well as external jury members and awards will be given to winning teams. The function will be arranged for the entire Sterling staff.
-  Site Visits to important projects – These will be organised by the staff members to share learnings from different projects within the company. These will be organised on Saturdays.
-  “Engineer of the Year Award” – This will be a trophy in the name of Shri. N. B. Hadker. This annual rotating trophy will be given to the Engineer at Sterling who showed excellence in technical abilities as well as Leadership skills in the projects assigned.

Learnings from Dada



When I reported to the Fort Office on August 1, 1983, the very next day of my M.Tech. thesis defence, the receptionist sent me to the first cabin on the right after the passage and I met Dada. There was no formal application and I simply told him that I wanted to work in this office and that I was interested in structural design. Dada asked me to take a seat and without asking a question, started explaining to me what was structural design. He dwelt upon the different types of forces that might be acting on a building, how the building would behave under their imposition, various possibilities of failure of a building, settlement in weak soil, temperature effects, durability of concrete, how the reinforcement was only to be provided to take care of tensile stresses and many more things. He also told me what a client expected from a structural designer and how he could be nasty if he did not receive the service that he would look for. Not once did he ask me about my qualification or what I knew about design. He went on giving this general information, leaving me wondering whether I was facing an interviewer or having a discourse from a peer delivered to a disciple. At the end, when I asked whether he would put me some questions on my abilities, he simply stated, "Wait for some time, Kamal is expected shortly. He will decide on your appointment." Thus I waited, met Kamal sir, was chosen to work in the office and was introduced to Mr. Goregaonkar as a new entrant and that was that. On my way back to the hostel in a crowded Central Railway train, I realized what Dada had done to me. Knowing me as a fresh engineer straight out of academics, he had made me aware of the kind of work I was going to do in the office. He did not expect me to know anything about the procedures and algorithms of analysis and design – irrespective of my supposedly high academic qualification and my own ideas about the kind of work I was going to do. He had simply told me what the structural consultancy was all about and if I was wise enough, should decide on my own, whether to take up this profession or seek a different career. It was an introduction to a career.

Once, I had an opportunity to work directly with him on a mini cement plant at Sewri. His initial brief was very simple. He sent me to the client's office to learn the entire process of cement making in the existing facility. From unloading of raw material, the conveyors, the hoppers, the kiln, the grinding machines, waste disposal, packing and every thing else about cement manufacturing that the client's production engineer could explain, was supposed to be understood by me. No bending moment, shear force, vee-u by bee-dee, and em-u by bee-d square was involved at that stage. It was all left to be a logical conclusion to be arrived at. The purpose for which we were supposed to provide our services was to be fully grasped first. Once the requirements of the production process and the steps involved were known and various dimensional and proportional requirements were understood, there was nothing left to be designed. I could instruct Ravi Narvekar – the artistic draughtsman on the job – exactly what was needed to make the GA drawings. Needless to say, the GA drawings were approved in the first submission itself, and all that was needed was to show the reinforcing bars in the foundation and pedestal profiles, sprinkle some typical connection details of trusses and steel columns in the GA drawings, draw bolt layouts in plan and sectional details of the mass foundations of the equipment, with just the bare and basic knowledge of simple structural analysis and design. It was the most wholesome learning about how to begin a design exercise. Now it was up to me to build up this habit of understanding the project requirement first and then apply our acquired engineering skills to produce schemes and details that would best suit the functional necessities. The root of the present day DBR lies in this approach, although we have turned the process into producing a mere document to be copied, pasted and edited.

Dada used to always call me to his cabin whenever he felt like imparting something that he recalled from his past experiences. Avinash Malpani, V.L. Naik and myself were his favourite audience for sharing his many anecdotes about arbitration that he was involved in, the legal aspects of our work, tender clauses, how we should "help" the contractor "bill" for his work (these are his exact words) – in order that he produces best quality work in the shortest time without any extra charge to the client – by suggesting work methodologies within his available resources and providing easiest of the detailing and so on. He always emphasized that our drawings and reports were legal documents. The title block, the notes, the revisions – all carry as much significance as the technical details we present. This sharing of views and thoughts were the foundation stones for my understanding of the professional practice that we are now conducting.

On a personal front, Dada was an astute lover of books. He used to lend me books to read – most often on philosophy. Once when I was going on a mountain trek, he gifted me a small book by J.Krishnamurthy, whose ardent admirer he was – or so I gathered. I carried that book with me to the Himalayas and found myself periodically reading it from beginning to the end, which turned into a habit later on and I still read that book quite often.

Dada contributed in some way to my approach to professional and personal life in a very understated but a definite manner, not making me realize that he was deliberately at it. Probably it was not deliberate. After all, I was merely one of the many, whose lives he enriched, because by nature he was a teacher, his mission was to enlighten.

- Girish David

Remembering Dada

N. N. Nagendrakumar



My association with Dada started from the beginning of my career as an engineer fresh from college. There have been several instances which have left indelible impressions in my life. Some of the qualities which I have imbibed in my professional career are punctuality, discipline, ethics, truthfulness and leading a team to complete the task.

From regular interaction in Mumbai office to closely staying with him in New Delhi during construction of the Indraprastha Stadium, we had a very good association. His control over language related to legal aspects of profession was of great help while drafting the agreement with Delhi Development Authority. The phrase "Periodic Inspection" inserted by him was a great relief while defining our scope in site supervision.

His advice to me when I wanted to start Bangalore office on professional ethics is unforgettable *"our profession is like a buffet, choose what you want and do not grab, there is plenty for everyone"* this is what I am following in true intent till date. Such was the impression of Dada's life on me.

S. B. Malekar



In January 1981, when I joined Sterling as a senior engineer, I used to share the cabin with Dada. During these years, I got a lot of practical training from Dada in technology, human and social relations. When Dada was invited as a Chief Guest at our Maccabi function, he gave away copies of Abdul Kalam's book "Wings of Fire" to the award winners and some others on his own. He would not hesitate to give

credit where it was due.

He was a voracious reader. He also had the foresight to record some pieces which he could not read later in life. He was outspoken. Once I was interviewing a candidate with him. The candidate, who had proudly exhibited that he was a gold medalist on his visiting card, was unable to answer some easy questions. Dada advised him by saying – *"Vidya Vinayena Shobhate"*

Once, Dada explained to me, the meaning of "strata and stratum" which I have never forgotten till date. He always gave me fatherly affection. It was a pleasure to talk to him on various engineering and social topics. He always kept abreast of the time. His dignified gait was very impressive. In his lifetime, he practiced what he preached and he will remain an icon to all those who came in contact with him.

V. L. Naik



I did not make a great impression on Dada in my first encounter with him. I had joined as a junior engineer and one day, Dada came to me and asked me to visit a site in Navi Mumbai. I used to be very shy and timid. I got frightened. I said no to Dada. He got very angry and scolded me. The next day, he asked me to work on slab load calculations. This too I could not complete. He was very furious and remarked that it was a

good thing that I had not gone to site the previous day!

Over the years Dada forgot my first encounter with him. He used to work on small projects himself. Gradually, he started taking my help in designing and I was able to complete the work to his satisfaction. Thus I was able to win his heart. Gradually I became his favourite engineer.

One day Dada casually asked me about my hobby. I told him that my hobby was reading books. That was the turning point in my relationship with Dada. He told me that he too had a good collection of books. I also told him that I was a member of British Council and American library. By coincidence, Dada was also a member of the American library. Thus books became the connecting link between us. Since then whenever I used to meet Dada, we used to discuss, apart from civil engineering, books we read. Thus our relationship ceased to be that of an employer and an employee. We became good friends and remained so till Dada's death.

Pramod Sahasrabudhe



When I joined Sterling, Dada Hadker was already in his hearty seventies. One of the things which inspired me was his ability to visualize. He had deep knowledge of construction practices and practicability of solutions given by engineers. He had a good command over engineering language which includes drawings, notes and specifications.

Dada was in Quetta (now in Pakistan) after an earthquake. I remember him sharing his experience with us regarding earthquake movements and their effect on structures. He was an expert in soil conditions in and around various parts of Mumbai. His anecdotal recalls were interesting and educative.

He was a principled person, with sound sense of law, business ethics and moral values. He was active and helpful with the engineering community at large and was concerned about the well being of employees. He was handy with instruments and tools and worked with his hands to repair instruments and bind books.

As I reflect upon his contribution to my life, I notice many strong as well as subtle influences. Sterling Engineering carries his legacy through its strong business framework, ethical practices and small details in letters, certificates, specifications and drawings.

Testimonials

Charles Correa, Architect

“Both my wife and I remember Mr. Hadker very fondly. At our wedding he told us, “I have a special present for you, a trip to Goa!” This was in April 1961, at the height of the economic blockade, when it was just about impossible to travel from India to what was still Portuguese territory - but he had been asked to recommend an architect by one of his clients, the Chowgules, and so we were very lucky.

It was always a pleasure to work with Mr. Hadker. Our first project together were the Twin Houses in Bhavnagar, one of my earliest commissions when I started my office in 1958. He was a very fine engineer and a really kind and considerate human being. And I have had the good fortune to continue that relationship with his son, Kamal, who not only has the highly rigorous and disciplined logic that engineering demands, but has also a great understanding of light and space - truly extraordinary qualities he has inherited from his father

Pheroze Kudianawala, Architect

“They say, “Men come into lives of each other, for a reason, at times, not to last even a Season”...Not for me, I am glad to say.

Due to the sudden death of my senior partner in Gregson Batley & King - Ciba of India who had entrusted our firm with Research Centre, Goregaon interviewed me as they had felt I did not have the experience to complete their prestigious project. At the time of the interview a man of quiet dignity and a ready smile asked to be seated next to me so as to convince Ciba to continue with me. With a hand over my shoulder, the man assured Ciba that he would do everything he can to help me plan an effective handover. It was February 1961 and two years later, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Inaugurated the Research center on 21st March 1963. Later, I had the opportunity to work again with Mr. Hadker on the Council of the World Trade Center, Mumbai. Everyone knew at the time of completion that I could not and would not have done all that I was supposed to have done without the wise advice, timely caution and stern rebuke, from my Mentor – Mr. Hadker.

May He remain in peaceful memory of all who knew him

A.D. Savardekar, Structural Engineer

“Shri N.B. Hadker, whose personality can best be described by the homely word ‘Dada’, was first introduced to me by my senior and mentor Shri S.M. Muzumdar. Dada, by his gentle manners at once made me feel free with him, although he was senior to me by a quarter of a century. He said I would be welcome to see him in his office whenever I had a point to discuss.

I did meet him several times to discuss practical problems in engineering. His vast experience could then be noticed behind his gentle demeanor. His approach to structural engineering was not formal; he went to the root of the matter. He did not base his explanation on Codal provisions and their cold formulae but more often visualized and described the flow of forces in structures.

Avinash Malpani, Structural Engineer

“Indeed, words fall short to amply describe the greatness of Dadasaheb-a visionary, a thorough structural engineer, an unmatched mentor and simply put a great guru!

When Human Resource Management was in infancy, he implemented it practically in his office that all staff were members of one family. He was always very brief and straight to the point and very well-ordered.

His zeal, broadmindedness and devotion to the cause of structural engineering was simply unparalleled. Attending office till the ripe age of 85, keeping abreast of all the latest -globally- in structural engineering; simply shows his total devotion.

Today, we humbly dedicate ourselves to try and follow this great legend in letter & spirit.

Abhay Ghate, Optimal Consultants

“Dada was indeed an outstanding engineer of his time. During the construction of the Indraprastha Indoor Stadium, I realized how he handled complex engineering problems purely based on engineering fundamentals. His mind used to cut its way as easily and as instantly to the very core of problems as a hot knife through butter. In conferences, he was always a mile ahead of others. He would wait for you to catch up and when you did, you would find that he had already surveyed the whole area and chosen and lighted the best path! We talked on a variety of subject ranging from Phonetic usage of languages, Professional Ethics, Cataracts and Lenses to Lateral Thinking. He introduced me to Fritjof Capra and we also had discussions on Koestler’s “Darkness at Noon” - of which he remembered almost every page!

I recall Tennyson’s words – “God’s finger touched him and he slept.

N. N. Shrikhade, Consulting Engineer

“I met Dada for the very first time in 1959 when I just started my consulting practice. Some people have the instinctive quality of endearing themselves during the very first meeting and this was so with Dada. I used to feel so nice whenever I met him and talked to him, even on phone and every time my regard and respect for him would be on ascendancy...

Vishwas and Sangeeta Date, Engineers

“For the person he was, Shri Dada was always a source of unsaid and secret “prerana” for both of us to move ahead in our profession. We had always seen his enthusiasm at the age of eighty plus! We had the chance of talking to him during some of the problematic situations and his words of wisdom were inspiring and consoling at the same time....such towering personalities are a rarity in life.

आठवणीतले दादा

वयाच्या ८० व्या वर्षापर्यंत दादांनी वांद्रे ते चर्चगेट असा प्रवास रेल्वेच्या द्वितीय दर्जाने केला. एका प्रथितयश स्थापत्य अभियांत्रिकी संस्थेचे मालक असल्याचा बडेजाव त्यांनी कधीच केला नाही. अनेक भाषांवर दादांचं प्रभुत्व होतं आणि इतरांनाही ते विविध भाषा शिकण्यासाठी प्रोत्साहित करीत असत. वेळप्रसंगी दादा निर्भिडपणे सहकाऱ्यांना समजही देत असत आणि कुणाच्याही सहाय्याला सहजपणे जाऊन सढळहस्ते मदत करत असत. सर्वांना मदत करणारे, औषधोपचार सुचवणारे दादा वात्सल्यमूर्ति होते. त्यांचे भारदस्त पण मोहक व्यक्तिमत्व सर्वांनाच भुरळ पाडत असे. अशा उत्तुंग व्यक्तिमत्वाच्या मृदुभाषी दादांच्या आठवणी सतत आमच्याबरोबर आहेत. त्यांना नम्र अभिवादन!



अशोक पाटील, सुहास पाटील



..... मला आठवतंय ते दादांचं प्रेमळ व्यक्तिमत्व! त्यांची एक खासीयत होती ती म्हणजे समोरच्या व्यक्तीशी बोलताना ते सतत हसतमुख असायचे. ऑफिसमधल्या कोणाशीही भेट झाली कि अगदी लांबूनही आपला हात उंचावून ते अभिवादन करत असत. त्यांच्या वागण्यात बडेजाव नव्हता. वयाच्या नव्वदीतही त्यांचा उत्साह वाखाणण्याजोगा होता...

स्मिता चौबळ

... कै. दादासाहेब हडकर म्हणजे साक्षात दयेची मूर्ति! मी मिल कामगार असताना एका रेल्वे अपघातात एका पायाने अपंग झालो. दादा माझी विचारपूस करण्यासाठी जे. जे. हॉस्पिटलमध्ये आले. औषधोपचारांसाठी मदत केली. धीर दिला व कंपनीत काम दिले त्यामुळे मी माझ्या अपंगत्वावर मात करू शकलो. साधी रहाणी व उच्च विचारसरणी म्हणजे दादा हे समीकरण योग्य होते.



हरिश परब

एकाच व्यक्तीची आयुष्यात दोनदा ओळख होणं ही खरोखरच अचंबित करण्यासारखी गोष्ट आहे. पण दादांची व माझी ओळख चक्क दोनदा झाली. प्रथम मी स्टर्लिंगच्या परिवारात आलो तेव्हा २००२ साली आणि त्यानंतर २००३ नंतर. पहिल्यांदा इनकमटॅक्स सारख्या विषयापर्यंत मर्यादित होती. पण नंतरची मात्र त्यांच्या कागदपत्रातून, डायरीतून, त्यांनी वाचलेल्या आणि आवडलेल्या पुस्तकातील उताऱ्यातून जी ओळख झाली ती खरोखरच मौलिक आणि काव्यात्मक होती. दूरदृष्टी असलेला, हुशार, तत्त्वनिष्ठ, कर्तृत्ववान व प्रेमळ माणूस म्हणजे मूर्तिमंत दादा याची जाणीव तेव्हा प्रकर्षाने झाली. माझे आदर्श पुरुष म्हणजे दादा –

एक गोड व्यक्तिमत्व! भव्य पण नम्र, दरारा असलेलं पण मोहक व मृदु!

राजदत्त ओक

दादांची माझी पहिली भेट म्हणजे भूकंपरोधक इमारतीसंबंधी एक सेमिनार होता तिथे झाली. त्या सेमिनारमध्ये डॉ. सुधीर जैन यांनी त्यांचा ज्येष्ठ अभियंता म्हणून सत्कार केल्याचे माझ्या स्मरणात आहे. एवढा मोठा माणूस पण किती नम्र! अतिशय मृदु स्वरात बोलणे! त्यामुळे ते ऐकणे म्हणजे एक पर्वणीच असायची. काळाप्रमाणे ते सहज बदलले. संगणक, सॉफ्टवेयर वगैरे गोष्टींना त्यांनी योग्य ते महत्व दिले. अनेक वर्षे ते रेल्वेने प्रवास करत. स्वावलंबन हा त्यांचा विशेष गुण होता. अनेक गुणांनी संपन्न असे ते व्यक्तिमत्व आमच्या मनात कायमचे कोरले गेले आहे.

हेमंत वडाळकर

Editorial



This year is of special significance to us. We are celebrating the "Birth Centenary" of our Founder Mr. N. B. Hadker - more lovingly known as Dada.

As we look back at the life that Dada led, we cannot help but realize how fortunate we are for having him with us and for the legacy that he has left behind.

Even as I write this column, I realize that Dada has been an inspiration for me in many ways. He was a true gentleman in every sense of this phrase. A complete family man, he was a kind and loving grandfather, full of adventure and enthusiasm. There was never a dull moment at home when he was around. He always encouraged us to travel, read, experiment and expand our knowledge and skills. Dada loved to read. He was a fast reader. He had books on every subject – Great Leaders, Pelmanism, Phonetics (this is the study of the sounds of speech and its production), Economics, Health, Languages, Management and Self Improvement! He had learnt to speak in German because of his association with the Germans. Even after the age of 60, he took a keen interest in learning Kannada and Bengali. His favourite authors were J. Krishnamurty and Rabindranath Tagore. He even learned to read and write in Bengali to be able to appreciate Gurudev's original work in Bengali....

Dada's way of life touched all those who interacted with him. He encouraged our staff members to do better, pursue good education and constantly upgrade their skills. He was himself a disciplined and hands-on worker. He would fix and mend things at home and in office – rarely depending on others. He was very soft spoken, caring and punctual. He was the first to reach our Fort Office earlier than everyone else. He had railway passes for both the Western and Central line trains!

Such was his magnanimous personality and character that he was always well respected. Today, our company's mission and vision is inspired by Dada. Most importantly, you will feel his presence in the spirit of the company as it embraces the challenges of the future and remains passionate about its commitments to its clients, employees and the community.

Recent Events

- ☞ We are happy to announce that Mr. Nagendra Kumar's daughter Pooja returned from UK after completing a Grande Diploma in French cuisine and patisserie. Congratulations Pooja! We are also extremely delighted to announce that Pooja got married to Raghuvveer, currently working in Risk Management at Jones Lang Lasalle. The wedding was held on January 26th, 2012. Our blessings and good wishes to the young couple.
- ☞ Vincent Pereira's son - Sezil's first Holy Communion took place on 13th November at his native village and was attended by a large number of his colleagues.
- ☞ Our draftsman, Nishant Mhatre tied the knot on 18th December 2011 our heartiest congratulations to the couple!
- ☞ Our engineer Abdul Hafiz became the proud father of a baby girl Hayqa who was born on 26th of October 2011 much to the delight of all family members.
- ☞ Our engineer from BKC, Sandeep Kudalkar was blessed with a healthy baby boy on 28th December 2011.
- ☞ Congratulations to our engineer from BKC office, Mamta Savaliya who got married on January 29th 2012.
- ☞ BKC office assistant Sandesh Chalke was blessed with a baby girl on 25th January 2012.

Shraddhanjali

...Nov 2003

श्रीमान योगी आता अनंतात विसावले आहेत
चैतन्य प्रकाशमान होऊन शांत स्थिरावले आहे

उषेच्या किरणात दादांचं अस्तित्व आहे
कमलच्या अदाकारीत दादांचाच भास होतो आहे

त्यांचं तेज, प्रगल्भ बुद्धि देवदत्त सारं काही
त्यांची ऋजुता आणि नम्रता यांना दुसरी उपमा नाही

या वटवृक्षाची पाळंमुळं दूरवर पसरली आहेत
त्याची गर्द छाया पांथस्थांना सुखावित आहे

दादांच्या सुविचारांनी आसमंत भारावला आहे
पुढचं पाऊल टाकताना त्यांचा आदर्श रहाणार आहे

त्यांची स्निग्ध नजर चिरंतन प्रेम देणार आहे
त्यांचं अबोल अस्तित्व स्विकारण्याची, शक्ति देणार आहे

कर्तव्य करून देऊया आपण त्यांना श्रद्धांजली
त्या महापुरुषाला हीच प्रेमाची आदरांजली

सौ. आशा

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