

S.N. Ray April 20, 2015

Condolences (via e-mail):

Date:	Name	e-mail	Message
3/18/2015	Dr. Ajit Das	Ajit_das@hotmail.com	Extremely sorry to hear that. Our condolences.
3/19/2015	Dr. Surendra Kumar Ray (India)	esskayray@rediffmail.com	Thank you very much for informing us the sad demice of Dr.Sashi Bhusan Mohanty on 18th of March,2015.He was a veterinarian and his fatherinlaw was known to me.His brother-in-law Dr.Siba kumar Samal who is in University of Minnesota was a student of mine and we meet often when he visits Orissa.Our deep condolenses for the departed soul.I shall pass on the message to all concerned.
3/19/2015	Dr. Naresh Das	nareshdas@yahoo.com	Very sad to hear this news.

Following from Dr. Rasik Tripathy (a student) (April 16, 2015)

Surendra Babu,

I will request you to kindly have Nihar review this for accuracy. If I am off by a year or so on the dates, he can correct me.

***What I have may be verified from Siba Samal or his brother (Babu Bhai).***

Dr. Mohanty graduated from Bihar Veterinary college in 1955. He joined the Veterinary staff of Orissa as an Asst Vety Surgeon. His father in law Dr. Samal was a District Veterinary Officer in Orissa. He came to University of Maryland for MS in 1959. After his Ph. D. in Virology, he remained in U of MD as an Assistant Professor in 1963. He went to Munich, East Germany in 1972/73 during the cold war era as a visiting Professor. After his return to U of MD, he became a full Professor in 1974. He was instrumental in starting the new veterinary college in Blacksburg, VA with a campus in College Park, where he held a dual position of Vice Dean, VA-MD regional college of Vety Medicine in

1982/83. By then he was also Chairman of Dept of Veterinary Virology at College Park. He co-authored (with Prof Sukanta Dutta) "Veterinary Virology" which was a textbook for undergraduate and graduate students throughout the world. He received numerous awards from AVMA, and U of MD, and VA-MD Veterinary college. He had authored about 100 professional articles. He was a reviewer for professional articles submitted for publication to AJVR (American Journal of Vet Research). He was instrumental in detecting (with Robert Hammond, VMD) an outbreak of a highly contagious cattle virus (Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis), which could have devastated the Maryland cattle industry.

Thank you.

Rasika Tripathy  
Ex Graduate Student of Dr. Mohanty (1976-1980).

The following from Dr. Shanti Mishra (a village mate) (April 17, 2015)

On Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:06 PM, Surendra Ray <[drsrray@aol.com](mailto:drsrray@aol.com)> wrote:

April 17, 2015 From Dr. Shanti Mishra (below)

Dr. Mohanty was born on September 4, 1931(?) in a small village named Durgapur in Balasore district. Only memory he has of his father is what he heard from his mother and other relatives. His family lived very close to our home and he was a legend in our village. I met him in Maryland for the first time in 1984 and developed a kinship that I will miss. He attended Satyananda High School in Soro. My Mamu was his classmate. One thing that really surprised me was that he was named by my grandfather. Though he was only 11 years younger than my father he called my father Kaka. Every September 4, I used to call him to wish him a happy birthday and we used to talk for some time. He got to know my younger son Sombit when he lived in DC. I saw him last in 2008 when I went to pick Sombit up and stayed at his house over night. We cooked some food together and I made him a jar of fried cumin and chili powder. He talked about the powder so much. I wish I had more face to face time with him. Both of us had this village where we were born. We left the village around the same time. He came to USA and I went to the town to go to school. There were village landmarks we talked about. My father was so proud of him. He was the pride of our village and established a temple for people to gather. I lost my only neighbor from that tiny village who knew my grandparents better than I knew them. He used to talk about his health and how the treatments have left him weak and confused. He was so humble and so loving I bow my head in saying goodbye to a "brother" who truly cared about me.

The following from Dr. Bhaskar Nayak, NJ (April 17, 2015)

-----Original Message-----

From: Bhaskar Nayak <[bnayak55@gmail.com](mailto:bnayak55@gmail.com)>

To: Surendra Ray <[drsrray@aol.com](mailto:drsrray@aol.com)>

Sent: Fri, Apr 17, 2015 3:43 pm

Subject: Re: About Dr. Mohanty

Dear Surendra Babu,

Thank you for keeping contact & for preparing a tribute to late Dr. Shashi Mohanty. I want to say few words for this great personality, as I have been associated with him for last 43 yrs, as a relative, guide & well wisher. I knew him after my marriage, & he became my co brother in law. Himself & his divinely wife Mrs. Pranati Mohanty were the main thread that brought me to this country. I convey my heart felt deep condolence to all his family & relatives, for this precious loss.

As far as I know, Shashi Baha'i was born a small town in Balasore district called Soro, in a lower middle class family, he lost his father in his early childhood, he was brought up by his late beloved mother, who was help less financially, but she bestowed him with her great love. he was a destitute but he was adorned with the God given talent. He supported his own schooling, by tutoring by tutoring neighborhood kids, graduated from high school, then got his veterinary Degree, from Patna Vet. College, one of few who succeeded. Then he served as a Veterinary doctor, in Jajpur, Odisha, During that time, his fate turned to brighter one. When he came in contact with Late Dr . Brundaban Samal, the associate director, veterinary Dept. Odisha. Dr. Samal became enchanted with the talent, tenacity & sincerely of this poor guy from Balasore, & encouraged him & helped him to proceed to USA for higher study, of course Dr. Mohanty own the heart of Dr. & Mrs. Samal , to have their daughter as his life partner. Most of things that went through later that is the life we all live. He used to call me & share his feelings almost every week, until Dec, 2014. I missed Sashibhai very much, he was a very talented & extra ordinary Odiya, his life is an example for all of his four brilliant children & for us .

## **Summary Prepared from above**

Dr. Shashi Mohanty was born on September 4, 1931(?) in a small village, Durgapur in Balasore district in the state of Odisha, India. He was born in a middle class family. He lost his father in his early childhood and was brought up by his late beloved mother. He was the pride of our village and established a temple for people to gather.

He attended Satyananda High School in Soro. Dr. Mohanty graduated from Bihar Veterinary College in 1955. He joined the Veterinary staff of Orissa as an Assistant Veterinary Surgeon. He came to the University of Maryland for Master's degree in 1959. After his Ph. D. in Virology, he remained in U of MD as an Assistant Professor in 1963.

He went to Munich, in 1972/73 during the cold war era as a visiting Professor. After his return to U of MD, he became a full Professor in 1974. He was instrumental in starting the new veterinary college in Blacksburg, VA with a campus in College Park, where he held a dual position of Vice Dean, VA-MD regional college of Vety Medicine in 1982/83. By then he was also Chairman of Dept of Veterinary Virology at College Park. He had co-authored (with Prof Sukanta Dutta) "Veterinary Virology" which was a textbook for undergraduate and graduate students throughout the world. He had published close to 100 professional articles. He was a reviewer for professional articles submitted for publication to AJVR (American Journal of Vet Research). He was instrumental in detecting (with Robert Hammond, VMD) an outbreak of a highly contagious cattle virus (Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis), which could have devastated the Maryland cattle industry.

After being affected by health related complications finally he succumbed on March 18, 2015.

A journey started from a tiny village, Durgapur without electricity, toilets, and school chairs, and with all odds of survival during the turmoil of the Indian independence struggle, to culminate as a dean of UMD, College Park can only be possible for a real pathfinder and passionate fighter like Dr. Mohanty. He with God orchestrated his whole destiny with a lot of passion. How lucky we are to celebrate a life never to be forgotten!