

The Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology of India

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Editorial

DEDICATED TO DR. GOOL N. VAZIFDAR



Dr. Gool Nowroji Vazifdar was born on 1st December, 1907 in Bombay. She did her schooling at St. Alexandre Girls High School and matriculated in 1924. Her father was the illustrious and famous Khan Bhadur Nowroji Vazifdar M.B.E. who was one of the founders and senior most members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Bombay. He had written a few books on physiology and was conducting private classes at home for medical students and Dr. Gool Vazifdar had befriended

a number of these students when a young girl. She had made up her mind by the age of five years that she would also be a Doctor when she grew up and there was no looking back.

She joined the Elphinstone College, Bombay in 1924 in first year Arts and then did her Inter Science from the Royal Institute of Science in 1925. She joined the Grant medical College, Bombay in 1926 where, at that time, 10% of the seats were reserved for lady students! She was in the

first batch of lady students to conduct twenty obstetric cases at the Cama & Albless Hospital where Dr. Jhirad had joined as Superintendent. She worked under Dr. Jhirad who was a very strict and excellent teacher, particularly in the labour ward. She, along with one another, was the first to appear for the F.C.P.S. by an examination - until then F.C.P.S. was given as an Honorary degree. She was appointed as an Assistant Hon. Obstetrician at the Cama & Albless Hospital in 1935. She worked in close association at Cama & Albless Hospital and in private practice with Dr. Dossibai J.R. Dadabhoy for many years. Dr. Dossibai J.R. Dadabhoy had her own personal Radium for the treatment of cancer of the uterine cervix. In those days, Radium was used in India only in Patna and at the Cama Hospital, Bombay. Even the famous Tata-Memorial Hospital came into existence later.

In 1947, when India became Independent, the then, Health Minister Dr. M.D.D. Gilder requested Dr. Gool Vazifdar to start an Obstetric & Gynaecological unit at the St. George's Hospital, Bombay with herself as the chief. She was also connected with the Indian Red Cross Soci-

ety since 1937. During World War II on behalf of the Red Cross she started a blood transfusion service in her private hospital with a large number of voluntary donors. For this selfless and dedicated service Dr. Gool N. Vazifdar was awarded the Kaisir Hind Medal and Dr. Dossibai J.R. Dadabhoy an M.B.E. by the British Government.

During her long term at the Cama & Albless Hospital and the St. George's Hospital she took keen interest in teaching the under graduate and post graduate students and made constant efforts to raise the standard and prestige of the Institutions.

Dr. Gool Vazifdar was the President of the 22nd All India Obstetric and Gynaecological Conference of the F.O.G.S.I held at Indore in 1978. Since the commencement of the Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology of India, she has given honorary service for forty years to the Journal as Secretary & Manager. She was an examiner to the College of Physicians & Surgeons. Dr. Gool N. Vazifdar has been the backbone of the Journal and an epitome of sincerity, hardwork and dedication.

— *Editorial Board*

