

Dr. K. M. Masani

M.B.B.S., (Bom), M.B.B.S., (Lond), M.D. (Lond),

F.R.C.S. (Eng), F.I.C.S.

Date of Birth 15-02-1903

Date of Demise 24-12-1988



Dr K. M. Masani

Dr. K. M. Masani was born on 15th February, 1903 in Poona. He joined the Grant Medical College in 1921 and qualified as a Medical graduate from University of Bombay in 1926. He was awarded the Sir Charles Morehead Prize and the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Gold Medal. After doing resident appointments in the J.J. Group of Hospitals, he proceeded to England for higher studies in 1929. He became a medical graduate of the University of London in 1931. In 1933, he became a Fellow of the College of Surgeons of England and in 1934 took the degree of M.D. of the University of London with Gynaecology and Obstetrics as the special subjects.

On his return to Bombay at the end of 1934, he was appointed as Assistant Obstetrician to the Bai Motlibai Hospital in 1935. In 1937 he resigned from the Motlibai Hospital on being appointed as Assistant Gynaecologist to the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. In 1941 he was made Honorary Gynaecologist in charge of one of two units of the K.E.M. Hospital and became Honorary Lecturer in Gynaecology to the Seth G.S. Medical College. In 1941, he was appointed Honorary Obstetrician to the Nowrosjee Wadia Maternity Hospital in charge of one of the four units. He became Honorary Principal Medical Officer of the N.W.M. Hospital in 1945. He served the K.E.M. Hospital and the Seth G.S. Medical College until his retirement in 1958. He retired from N.W.M. Hospital, both as an Honorary visiting Obstetrician and as Principal Medical Officer at the end of 1965.

During his long term as Principal Medical Officer to the N.W.M. Hospital he made constant efforts to raise the standard and prestige of the Institute. The comfortable Resident Medical Officers' and the Postgraduate quarters

and the Premature Babies Ward were mainly due to his efforts. He strived hard to make the N.W.M. Hospital a full teaching institution by having Gynaecological wards in conjunction with the Obstetric wards, but due to circumstances beyond his control the gynaecological wards were opened after his retirement in 1965. The Board of Management in recognition of his long honorary services to the Institution did him the signal honour by naming the gynaecological wards as "Dr. K. M. Masani Gynaecological Wards".

Dr. Masani's chief interest has always been the teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates and one can state with pleasure that he was one of the first to organise postgraduate teaching in obstetrics and gynaecology in the teaching institutions of the city. His interest in teaching naturally culminated in his publishing a monograph of Ectopic Pregnancy in 1949. His Text Book of Gynaecology was first published in 1954 and this popular book has seen seven editions in a period of twenty years. His Text Book on Obstetrics was first published in 1964 and soon the third edition was also published. Thus, his cherished desire of giving the medical undergraduates and postgraduates text books written in a practical and simple manner with stress on conditions existing in India was fulfilled.

Dr. Masani was the President of the 13th All India Conference on Obstetrics and Gynaecology held at Patna in 1965.

Since the commencement of the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of India in 1950 he has given honorary services to the Journal as Associate Editor until 1968 and as an Editor till 1986.

Dr. K. M. Masani was very methodical and meticulous in his work. He was also responsible for the immense popularity the Journal enjoys today. He was a jovial company and very witty in conversation.

He expired on Christmas Eve, i.e. 24th December 1988 in his sleep.