

Indian Contribution to Obstetrics and Gynecology

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Balsarkar Geetha

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Dr. Vasant Bhalchandra Patwardhan

Dr. V. B. Patwardhan was born in Bombay on June 5, 1932 to Dr. Bhalchandra Patwardhan as the eldest of five siblings. He possessed an early fascination for the English language and would read heaps and heaps of books—both fiction and nonfiction.

He joined Wilson school and later St. Xavier's college. After completing Interscience course, he joined Grant Medical

College from where he completed his MBBS in 1955. Around that time, he had made up his mind to become a gynecologist like his father. He continued further his post-graduate education at Grant Medical college and obtained his MD. He then joined the Rural Health Institute at Manchar, near Pune, as medical officer and served rural population there for about a year. He then moved back to Mumbai to join the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Grant Medical College as Hon. Medical Officer in the Antenatal Department in 1959. He subsequently became Assistant Professor in 1966 and finally retired as Honorary Professor in 1992. He thrived in a flourishing private practice which he continued till 2000.

Dr. V. B. Patwardhan was the 30th President of Bombay Obstetric and Gynecological Society from 1983 to 1984 after occupying various positions in the same society. This year is the Golden Jubilee year of the organization. Incidentally, his father Dr. B. D. Patwardhan was the President of MOGS (then BOGS) in its Silver Jubilee year. Dr. Vasant Patwardhan was the trustee of MOGS from July 12, 2001. He was the Treasurer of FOGSI in 1983–1984 and its Joint Secretary from 1984 to 1989. He was Hon. General Secretary of FOGSI from 1990 to 1992 and was President of FOGSI in 1993–1994.

Dr. Vasant Patwardhan, had the ability to take everyone together and guide, promote his junior colleagues for bigger roles in the profession. Dr. Vasant Patwardhan had a pleasant personality that made him a very enjoyable company. He and his charming wife Lalita, she too an accomplished anesthetist, made excellent hosts. He was very popular among his colleagues. His demise on April 12, 2010 was a great loss to FOGSI, MOGS, and his wide circle of friends.

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