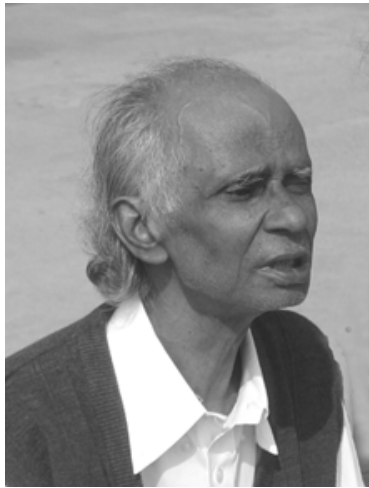


*Tribute to*  
Professor Jishnu Datta



*By his students, colleagues  
& friends*

Department of Statistics  
Cotton College  
Guwahati 781001

The teachers and students and staff of the department of Statistics, Cotton College, Guwahati is shocked to learn about the untimely demise of Professor Jishnu Datta on the night of 29 November, 2016 at a Bengluru hospital.

Professor Datta was former Head of the Department of Statistics and former Dean of Cotton College, Guwahati.

Professor Datta will be remembered by everyone in the department who have come in touch with him, for his teaching ability, dedication, sincerity and steadfastness.

The staff, student and teachers of the department extends their sympathies to the bereaved family and prays for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

1.12.2016

Geeta Dey  
Head of the deptt. of Statistics

This small memorial booklet is published by some admiring student of Professor Jishnu Datta on the occasion of the meeting organised in the Conference Hall of Cotton College on 9 December, 2016 to remember Professor Datta.

The publishers acknowledge the help and cooperation of the contributors, and thanks the family of Professor Datta for their valuable contribution and encouragement.

The publishers apologise for any omission or error.



## Jishnu Datta

Date of birth : 1.2.1940

Place of birth : Doomdooma, District Tinsukia, Assam

Year of joining Cotton College : 21 March 1964

Year in which retired from service : 1 February 1998 as Dean (in charge) of Cotton College

### **Academic and Administrative career :**

After graduating from Cotton College, Professor Datta did his M.Sc in Statistics from Gauhati University in 1962. Immediately after that he taught in a high school in Guwahati for some time. Then for some time he was Lecturer in Statistics in St. Anthony's College, Shillong before joining Cotton College in 1964.

During his long tenure of thirty four years in Cotton College, Professor Datta earned for himself a reputation as a very sincere and able teacher. He also at different times helped examination related works including conduction of college examinations.

His book on the elementary course in Probability meant for the higher secondary students was an acclaimed publication. His research, at quite an advanced age, though has remained incomplete; his papers got published in prestigious journals.

He assumed the position of the Head of the department of Statistics in Cotton College in January 1992 and provided necessary guidance and inspiration to his junior colleagues in the department.

After retirement, he served the Assam Institute of Management in the capacity of Controller of Examination during 2000-02.

Prof. Datta is associated with various organizations as a token of his inclination towards social activities.

## **Professor Datta's Reminiscence of Cotton College**

*(in his own words) :*

Reminiscence of Cotton College is indeed a long journey of a traveller. The travel begins on the day of entering as a learner and ended on the so-called day of retirement from service to this holy seat of learning.

As a student, I attended I.Sc and B.Sc classes and as a teacher I attended, in addition to the HS classes, degree and PG classes.

During my student days, I must concede, my peers from all over the NE region enabled me to have an idea about the mental makeup of the people of the region. The zeal with which my teachers taught us could not but gave enough encouragement to the students.

During my degree studentship, learning of Statistics along with Mathematics helped me much in developing an analytical approach. Statistical investigations which require application of theory of probability attracted me very much.

At present Cotton College is a full-fledged PG college. And during eighties, PG classes in Statistics were started. Though the department had no teacher with a doctoral degree, there was no lack of enthusiasm and activity, and students could secure first class.

In my opinion, teacher's job is a noble one. He must have intuition to identify what is good or bad for his students. Through proper utilization of his third eye a lot can be done. No doubt, chance factor may influence such effort.

Let me now say something about the committees to which I belonged. I was in the admission committee and in the examination committee. Working in these committees, I got many friends. It also came to my notice that dedication to duty is not limited to only an elite class of people, it is also there among the lowest stratum of employees. It is my experience that without the co-operation between the teacher members and three persons - Bishnu, Nagen & Badan conduction of the various examinations would not have been smooth. During my time, we used to regard these three persons as the most important people in the examination branch of the college.

I became Head of the Department of Statistics on January 1, 1992. This enabled me to take part in the meetings of heads of various teaching departments. Finally in the last month of my service life, Govt. of Assam appointed me Dean in full charge of the college from January 1, 1998. As dean, I had to conduct the administrative affairs of the college as head of the institution. I got cooperation from all teachers and office staff.

At the last, I would like to thank all who helped me during my tenure as Lecturer, Professor, Head of the department and finally as the Dean of the college.

## **Prof.Jishnu Datta**

### **through the Lens of his Family**

The sense of permanent loss has not sunk in yet. He continues to inhabit our thoughts. As memories of him flood through us, we are reminded of his immense influence in our lives. In his quiet, unassuming manner, he imparted to us and others around him the principles by which he lived. His deep commitment as an educator inspired us and several generations of students. His natural inclination to help his extended family, at home and at work, without a second thought about his individual interests, defined who he was. It is a trait that we admire and aspire to emulate.

The bulk of his professional life was spent at Cotton College, Guwahati. Over the span of three decades, he rose through the ranks to serve as Lecturer, Reader, Professor, Head of the Department of Statistics, and, finally, Dean of the college. He derived great joy from teaching and interacting with his students. In introducing us to new concepts in our school days, he brought to bear the same set of skills that made him an effective and popular teacher in college. His emphasis on first principles and thought-provoking examples encouraged us and his many other students to think independently and to pursue subjects deeply.

The trajectory of his personal life was equally inspiring. His family's roots were in Sylhet in undivided India. Dispossessed by the partition, he rebuilt his life in Guwahati. For us, his immediate family, he was always there. In his characteristic understated manner, he worked quietly in the background to make our lives easier. Generous to a fault, he repeatedly stepped up to help a large extended family of relatives and friends, often prioritizing the needs of others over his own without a moment's hesitation. He responded to petty behaviour by quietly taking the high road rather than becoming confrontational. His professional and personal lives were closely intertwined. His faculty colleagues and their families were our neighbours and our friends. The

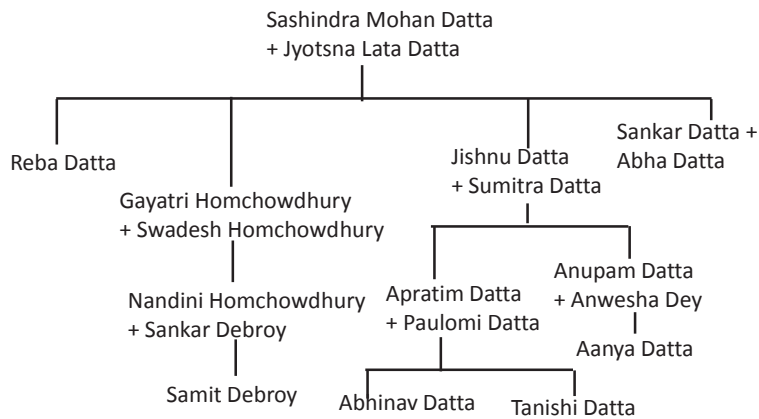
doors of our home were always open to his students. These interactions reflected his philosophy of life and shaped ours. We are deeply saddened by his departure. At the same time, we find solace in the realization that he will live on in us and in many others whose lives he touched.

Anupam Datta, December 6, 2016

On Behalf of Jishnu Datta's Family

- Sumitra Datta (Wife)
- Apratim Datta (Elder son), Poulami Dutta (Daughter-in-law), Abhinav & Tanishi Datta (Grandchildren)
- Anupam Datta (Younger son), Anwesha Dey (Daughter-in-law), Aanya Datta (Grandchild)

### Professor Jishnu Datta's Family Tree



**Cotton College Retired Teachers' Forum**  
**Old Library Building :: Cotton College**  
**Panbazar, Guwahati**

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Dr. Arun Borah  
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Members of the Cotton College Retired Teachers' Forum were shocked to learn that Professor Jishnu Datta, former Dean & Head of the Department of Statistics, Cotton College has left for his heavenly abode on the night of 29th November, 2016 at Bengaluru, after a brief spell of illness.

Professor Datta, a dear and revered colleague of the members of the Forum, was a devoted teacher and an able administrator, and is affectionately remembered by his colleagues, students and juniors. Members of the Forum feel that he was an outstanding person and he has left them too soon.

Members of the Forum extend their deepest sympathies to the bereaved family and assures them that the admirers of Professor Datta shall never forget him.

1.12.2016

  
Secretary

## Remembering Jishnu Dutta

Salil Kumar Dutta

It was 1st December 2016, noon, I was in Tezpur. I received a phone call from Bangalore. Anil Roy, a friend of mine and also of Jishnu informed me about the sad demise of Jishnu. I was deeply shocked. He was my friend and a well wisher.

Last year when he returned from Bangalore to his Rehabari apartment in Guwahati we (me & my wife) went to meet him. We discussed a variety of topics covering our college days, friends, family friends etc. We spent a wonderful evening. I could not imagine that it would be our last meeting.

I have known him since 1957, when we were in I.Sc class in Cotton College. We became very good friends. He used to come to our Chatribari house almost every Sunday morning. He was very simple and sincere person. He gradually became very close to our family members as well. During our B.Sc days I observed his urge for going deep into the subject. We often discussed various subject related problems which helped us both.

After completion of M.Sc Jishnu joined Cotton College, and I joined Arya Vidyapeeth College. Our friendship only deepened over the years. He was gifted with several qualities for which everyone loved, respected and admired him. I always admired his commitment and dedication as a teacher.

May his soul rest in peace



## A Professor and A Gentleman

As I sit down to write something in memory of our beloved teacher, Professor Jishnu Datta, I don't know where to start. I have so many memories about the Late Dutta sir that I don't know where to begin and where to end...and I am sure many of my memories will echo with many others' thoughts.

I can remember very well we were some of sir's first students. Sir was a young professor then...a perfect gentleman. But the brilliance and dedication that he became renowned for over the next 35 years or so was already very much in evidence. Datta sir was one of the most scholarly and thorough teachers I have had the fortune to learn from. His class notes were so detailed that we considered those notes itself as books. Till today, long after I have retired myself, I still have sir's notes as my prized possessions... whenever I needed them in my own teaching career, I used to consult those.

After a few years learning from him as a student, I was fortunate him to know him for the next so many years as my senior colleague, and his influence over my own career remained strong. When he took over as the Vice Principal of the college, a post he so richly deserved, I took over from him as the HoD of the Statistics department. And I found that his teachings had resonance over my actions even then. I, as first a student, and after that, as his colleague, had followed his every instruction word by word. It had become one of my best habits as his instructions and suggestions were always pearls of wisdom for me. A simple example would be when I had taken some basic computer training just because he had suggested that I do so...and years later, that training had helped me in all the reports I had to prepare as HoD.

All the other students whom he taught will echo my words when I say that sir was one of the most dedicated teachers we have met. Even after his retirement, he would sometimes drop in at our department and help us and the students a lot...such are the memories of sir which we can never forget in life.

But I feel so sad that I could not offer my last '*pranam*' to sir as he was at Bangalore at the time of his death. Sir, as you depart into the heavenly abode, I offer my '*pranam*' to you through this small note...please continue to guide us even from above...

**- Mrs. Kamala Chaudhury**

*Former HoD (Statistics), Cotton College*

## Remembering JD Sir

*"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."*

~Henry Brooks Adams

As students, we spend almost as much time with our teachers as we do with our parents. It's no wonder, then, that so many of us have vivid memories of our teachers that stick with us years later. We might not always remember the definition of any subject, but we remember the way a good teacher inspired us and influenced us. We remember the time they spent helping us get a difficult topic just right, and the way they shaped our lives.

As I am writing this article on the Jishnu Dutta Sir or J.D Sir as his students used to call him, the man with immense talent and massive erudition, it feels like I am walking down memory lane.

I was a student of Professor J.D sir way back in 1982-1987. Even after 34 years of stepping into the prestigious Cotton College and attending my first class on statistics, which coincidentally was taken by J.D Sir, I remember each and every detail like it happened yesterday because of sir's ability to leave an impact on his students and leave them awestruck with the knowledge that he had on statistics. He explained the meaning of probability in such a way that even after so many years, I remember the exact words and terms that he used. He taught his students with uttermost flair.

My lifetime love of teaching Statistics came from my five years as his student. He was a teacher who taught from the heart. He was a brilliant teacher and I look back in gratitude because he helped me academically to become the professor that I am today. He made you believe that you were important and gave you the confidence every day to believe in yourself. I truly looked back to my days as his student as I felt successful and accomplished because of his support and confidence in me. When I joined Cotton College in the year 1993 as a teacher, he was the Head of the Department. Today as a professor of the same subject that sir taught, I feel that I have made him proud.

Sir was a man of few words. But whenever he spoke, he mostly spoke about his passion- Statistics. There was absolutely nothing related to the subject that he didn't know. During my time as his student, Statistics books written by foreign authors were only available. J.D sir was one of the few people who were well versed with details of all those books.

He had a special equation with all his students and knew all of us personally. Sir was always approachable and made it a point to ensure that he was available to his students whenever they had any query. Whenever I went up to him with questions and queries, it took him few seconds to give me the answer. He would scribble the answer on whatever paper that he could get his hands on. Speaking of which, one day when I approached him with a question, he started writing the answer on a sheet of paper which happened to be a very important document. Ever since that incident, I made it a point to carry an extra paper with me whenever I approached him.

While I mourn the loss of such a great man, I feel blessed and honored that I was fortunate to be associated with him. He was certainly a special person and his absence will be always felt by his students.

**Dr Bandana Sharma**

*Associate Professor*

*Department of Statistics*

*Cotton College, Guwahati*

*Email: bsharmacotton@rediffmail.com*

## Dutta Sir: My Guru, My Mentor

He was a brother per excellence, he was a teacher any student can aspire for, a dotting husband and was an ideal father for his two sons. Probably, he was a student, any teacher in the world can boast of.

When my respected sir, Biswajit Chakraborty telephoned me to write something on Dutt sir with a time limit of twelve hours, my mind started rolling, what should I write about him. I know many of us will be writing about sir as one of most sincere sir we had come across in our lives. For sir, students are the members of his extended family. Duttani Baideew was a perfect folly of our Dutta sir reminding the students of Guru and Gurumata saga of mythology.

But finally, I decided to write something on my relation with Dutta sir and his family with whom my association is little more than four decades. I was one of his students of statistics for five years, colleague for few months and a student for entire life. I learnt many things from him in the last forty years. I am sure many of my seniors, friends and juniors will share something which will enlighten us about his unique personality.

For me, who was he and for him, who was I? Let me start with our last conversations before I was transferred from Guwhati to Delhi. 'Hiranya, you are becoming less shameless now a days. Why?'

'May be due to my age, sir.' I quipped with a grin. He smiled back with that innocent smile which all of us wanted to see in his face. Why he asked me that question?

On that day, I said an unconventional 'No' for tea to Baideo. Baideew and sir used to give me tea and snacks whenever, I visited them since 1976.

I do not know how many students can boast to exchange light talks with sir. I was one of the most privileged students who was given the liberty to ask a few questions, of course not during my student days.

During one of my visits to his home at professor's colony I asked him, 'Sir I know, I had never been a 'most favoured student' of you. But do you like me sir?'

With his trademark smile he countered the same question. I immediately answered, 'I did not like you and my mother for your over serious approach to life. But without iota of doubt, I love you as my teacher and my mentor.'

'Probably, that is the reason why I love you also. You are never serious to your life. You never tried to achieve anything using your full potential.' Sir thoughtfully told me.

I told to my friends and acquaintances, may be thousand times why I am here today. It was a silly morning of January, 1981 when I was taking sunbath, a classmate of mine from economics honours passed a message from Dutta sir in a bitter guard coated capsule. As per his version, he asked Dutta sir, how many students from statistics department would be able to secure first division. On his question, Dutta sir mentioned few names. The list of probable first class holders did not figure my name. When my friend asked him why my name did not figure in the list his answer was very candid.

'How Hiranya will get first class? Has he any time for his studies? He is doing all the sundry works other than the work he is supposed to do. He has saddened me by his activities!' At that time, being Editor of 'Çottonian', I was involved in many activities which were detrimental for excelling in studies.

Those few sentences carried by the friend of mine from my respected Dutta sir, galvanised my attitude towards my studies. Unfortunately, only three months were left for the final examination.

Few years later when I referred about the bitter pill he had sent through my friend, he said, 'Is it? Still I am not happy with you. You could have achieved much more than what you have achieved today.' He told me with his usual seriousness.

As I grew older, sir sometimes treated me as a friend also. Sometimes he allowed me to discuss on some lighter topics as well. Believe it or not, sometimes he used to indulge some leg-pulling also with me. In one such occasion he poked me, 'Do you know—? He was a very good student of mine. He wanted someone from Government to deliver a lecture on NSSO. He knows that you are in NSSO. But I told him not to invite you. I told him to invite some serious officer for delivering the lecture.' With a twinkle in his eyes he finished his version.

As expected, I got the invitation to deliver the lecture on Dutta sir's recommendation.

So far, my relationship with Dutta sir is concerned, it was based on truthfulness on the part of Sir. He was always candid in his reply to any of the queries raised by me on general studies, on statistics or on social life. One day, when I asked him according to him among the intelligent students where I stand, his answer was frank:

'I have met many more students who happen to be more intelligent than you. Some of them are holding very good positions. However, some could not excel in their professional lives. That is a part of life.'

His opinions are always revered to me.

But what was the most touching statement he had made for me? Obviously, not those statements what I had mentioned above.

A few years back, I confronted sir, 'I am not your best student; I have not achieved anything what many of your favourite students achieved; then why you are tolerating my nonsense for hours when we met after few months or so?'

'You will get the answer when your son will be in the hostel, away from you, knowing that he was not the most intelligent boy in the world, not the most handsome boy in the world, not the best achiever in the world, but still you will be waiting for him to hear his nonsense!'

Probably that summarise my relation with Dutta sir. I shall always miss sir as a true mentor for a boy who came to Cotton college from a small non-descript village of Assam with a dream in his eyes to make something big.

I am extremely happy that both his sons are extremely successful in their professional life. I pray to God, Baidew will able to withstand the loss and will have a healthy and peaceful life.

**A submission by Hiranya Borah**

**A student of 1976 batch**

*Hiranya Borah, ISS*

*Dy. Director General, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, GOI*

*Dindayal Upadhyay Antodaya Bhawn, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road*

*New Delhi*

## **Great teachers don't just teach you; they change you.**

This is the line came to mind when I started to pen down few lines for the memory of our most respected teacher Jishnu Dutta Sir more precisely JD Sir. When I think about what made him a teacher so apart I can now visualize that it was his depth of knowledge, judgment, and personality which garners a lot of respect as a teacher.

We, as a student learnt a lot from this great personality. He changed our idea about the subject 'Statistics' in a different perspective. The heart of learning is this connection between teachers and students and JD Sir was instrumental in triggering the student's hunger to learn, and guiding it in the right way. I think no student of his can forget the concepts of 'Probability', 'Design of Experiments' and many more the way he imbibed on us.

There are several teachers whose lessons I still carry with me today. These teachers were more than just educators—they inspired me to be curious and to think differently about the world around me. Their passion for teaching and commitment to my learning shaped the person I am today. May God rest his departed soul in peace.

**Dr. Jonali Sarma**

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## **Remembering my *Guru***

### **Prof Jishnu Datta**

As I walk down memory lane today, I remember with love, with pride and with tears my most respected JD Sir, my mentor and a teacher par excellence.

My association with Sir dates back to the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 1984, when I stepped into Cotton College as a HS first year (Science) student at the age of fifteen. I still remember our first class in Statistics with Sir – a stern looking man deliberating on ‘Probability’ with a loud voice. However, to my awe, outside the classroom, his voice was extremely soft. His classes demanded attention and in no time, I developed a great love for the subject, especially Probability theory. The amount of care I received from Sir at that nascent stage needs to be seen to be realised. Two years later, when I took up Major in Statistics, I came to understand that Sir was the pillar of strength of the Department; an epitome of sincerity and dedication, he was a doyen of his passion ie., Statistics. We learnt much under his guidance as also of the other remarkable teachers we had at that time. There was an aura of love and concern in the department so much so that we immediately identified it as our second home with JD Sir as the father figure. There was hardly a topic in Statistics on which Sir could not discuss – he was so well versed in the subject. He did not need any document when he came to class... the lessons simply poured out... and the notes that we took down have remained as treasures for us to use. At that time, books by Indian authors were few; Sir used to go by the foreign authors, and we had to try to do the same... and he inculcated in us a habit of reading and understanding and trying to solve the exercises given in those books, and the habit of paying attention to the minutest details. He was forever there to help us in case we had problems. If there were a few amongst us who dared not go near Sir fearing his stern exterior, there were some, including me, who well understood that within that exterior there was a person with a very soft heart. He could identify talent and expertise and in his own unique style, he used to encourage and inspire students to excel and fly high towards success.

Immediately after doing my Masters from the University of Delhi, I joined Cotton College as a Lecturer in Statistics in 1993. Thus began my new tryst with Sir in the capacity of a colleague. Through this proximity, I learnt the importance of hard work and dedication and the necessity to have a sense of belongingness to the Institution I worked for. I have yet to come across such a selfless devoted worker and a zealous teacher as JD



Sir. Statistics was his passion and Cotton College, his life. He was actively associated with the corporate life of the college being involved in all matters relating to conduction of examinations, the admission process, academic innovations and academic administration of the college. It was under his initiative that the admission procedure into the degree courses was revolutionized with the introduction of the credit point system which gave due credence to the fact that a student should be enabled to take up Honours (Major) in a subject in which he or she has shown excellence. This was at the time Bandana Sharma and I had joined the Department as members of faculty and Sir had immediately engaged us in this new endeavour. This was just the beginning... we had the opportunity to learn and work in many other situations under his able guidance. Indeed, his sincere involvement in the academic activities of the students, especially the students of Statistics, will be remembered by each and every student who was associated with him. Though his research pursuit remained incomplete due to such involvements, he offered guidance and inspiration to all his junior colleagues in the department to move forward and engage in research activities, a major requirement in the teaching profession since the late nineties. Leaving aside academics and work, I cannot but recall his care and concern for us in numerous circumstances encountered during the course of our service. As the Head of the Department of Statistics and finally as the Dean, Cotton College, Prof J. Datta's contributions to Cotton College and the students remain undisputable. However, he maintained his humble demeanour even while he was the Dean (Principal) of the premier institution. A void was created in the Department of Statistics and in Cotton College the day Sir retired in February, 1998.

Sir's contribution in my life can never be measured. Words fail me as I try to express his role in moulding me and making me the teacher and the person that I am today. As I look back and try to recall all the lessons about life I learnt from him, as I try to recall his magnanimity, selflessness, honesty and devotion to work, I understand that it is difficult to be even a fraction of what he was. I was truly blessed to have had him as my teacher and today, I pray to the Almighty to help me live up to his expectations. That, I believe, would be my greatest tribute to Sir.

With tears I bid adieu to my *Guru*... may his soul rest in eternal peace.

**Dr Sangeeta Barthakur**  
*Associate Professor*  
*Department of Statistics*  
*Cotton College.*

## জিষ্ণু দত্ত ছাৰলৈ শ্ৰদ্ধাঞ্জলি

সজ্ঞাৱিতা তত্ত্ব, যাদৃচ্ছিক পৰীক্ষা, *Probability, Design of Experiment, ANOVA*, . . . . আদি শব্দবোৰ মনত অহাৰ লগে লগেই এগৰাকী বিশেষ ব্যক্তিৰ মুখ এখন তথা সম্পূৰ্ণ চেহেৰাটো আমাৰ চকুৰ আগত ভাঁহি উঠে। এই শব্দবোৰৰ সৈতে অজ্ঞানী সম্পৰ্ক থকা ব্যক্তিগৰাকীয়েই হ'ল আমাৰ অতি মৰমৰ, অতি শ্ৰদ্ধাৰ জিষ্ণু দত্ত ছাৰ - যি গৰাকী আজি পঞ্চভূতত বিলীন হৈ গ'ল।

ছাত্ৰী হিচাপে ছাৰৰ সৈতে মোৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ সাত বছৰৰ সম্পৰ্ক। প্ৰাক্ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় শ্ৰেণীৰ পৰা স্নাতকোত্তৰ মহলালৈকে এই সাত বছৰ ধৰি কটন মহাবিদ্যালয়ৰ পৰিসংখ্যা বিভাগৰ সৈতে মোৰ যি সম্পৰ্ক গঢ়ি উঠিছিল - সেয়া চিৰস্মৰণীয়। সেই দীঘলীয়া সময়ছোৱাত ছাৰৰ সান্ধ্য লাভ কৰাৰ সুযোগ পাইছিলোঁ। পৰিসংখ্যা বিষয়টোৰ প্ৰতি তেওঁ আমাক সকলোকে আকৃষ্ট কৰাইছিল। ছাৰৰ শিক্ষা দানৰ কৌশল, গলগলীয়া কণ্ঠস্বৰ আৰু ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীৰ সৈতে বখা তেওঁৰ সৌহাৰ্দপূৰ্ণ আচৰণ সঁচাকৈয়ে মনত ৰাখিবলগীয়া।

মোৰ সহপাঠী বান্ধবী বন্দনাই যেতিয়া ছাৰৰ মৃত্যুৰ বতৰা মোক দিছিল - মই বাকৰুদ্ধ হৈ পৰিছিলোঁ। মৃত্যু চিৰ শাস্ত। তথাপি সকলোৰে মৃত্যুক সহজে মানি লোৱাটো বৰ কঠিন। ভাৱ হৈছিল - এটা যুগৰ অৱসান ঘটিল।

হে মহীৰুহ! আপোনাৰ মৃত্যুয়ে পৰিসংখ্যাৰ পৰিসৰত এখন আসন শূণ্য কৰি পেলালে। এজনী অনুগত ছাত্ৰী হিচাপে আপোনালৈ একাঁজলি অশ্ৰু অঞ্জলি যাচিলোঁ - য'তেই আছে, আমাৰ মূৰৰ ওপৰত আশীৰ্বাদ বৰষি থাকক।।।

ওম শাস্তি!

ওম শাস্তি!

ওম শাস্তি!

ড० বিদুলা শৰ্মা

## মৃত্যুৰ পৰিধিৰ বাহিৰত

(আমাৰ পূজনীয় জিষ্ণু দত্ত ছাৰৰ সোঁৱৰণত)

হে স্থিতপ্রজ্ঞ,

জয়তু আপোনাৰ জীৱন, কৰ্মস্পৃহা  
আৰু প্ৰেৰণা।

জীৱনকালত আপুনি আছিল  
সকলোৰে মাজত —

অতি মৰমৰ / অতি শ্ৰদ্ধাৰ / অতি প্ৰিয়পাত্ৰ,  
আপোনাৰ অতীতৰ অৱদান  
আমাৰ বাবে  
শুজিব নোৱাৰা ধাৰ।

হে মহান, সদায়ে মহানতাৰ  
আদৰ্শেৰে আগুৱাই  
আমাকো দেখুৱালে  
জীৱনৰ আচল বাট।  
মৃত্যুতো হ'ল —

এটা পৰিতৃপ্ত আত্মা আৰু দেহৰ বিচ্ছেদ।  
আপোনাৰ আত্মাও সম্পূৰ্ণ পৰিতৃপ্ত  
হৈ

মহান আত্মাৰ ৰূপ লৈ  
পৰমাত্মাত বিলীন হোৱাৰ  
কামনাৰে।

কিন্তু — আপোনাৰ কৰ্মৰাজি আৰু  
স্থিতপ্রজ্ঞ ব্যক্তিত্ব  
আমাৰ বাবে আপোনাৰ মৃত্যু  
সকলোৰে কল্পনাৰ পৰিধিৰ বাহিৰত।

— ড॰ কমল বৰ্মন,  
পৰিসংখ্যা বিভাগ,  
কটন কলেজ

## **Professor JD -- a great soul**

The news of bereavement of my most respected SIR Professor Jishnu Dutta is really painful to me. For me, Professor Jishnu Dutta was not only a teacher, but a true human who helped me in managing my day to day life. I have come from such a family where two meals a day was difficult to get, but for the help I got from him, I could not only manage the livelihood, literally, I could penetrate to my study without hindrances.

It is his inspiration and teaching that I could complete my education upto Ph.D (Statistics), reached upto the Senior Position in the Government and now a visiting faculty to number of educational institutions in India and Abroad. Such type of teacher is hardly available in this world. I can never forget him till the departure of my soul.

I pray to allmighty for most auspicious place of rest for his soul.

**Dr. Dilip Kumar Dey, ISS**  
*Additional Director*

*OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL  
& CENSUS COMMISSIONER, INDIA  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
2A, Mansingh Road, New Delhi-110011*

## **My tribute to Jishnu Dutta Sir**

Sir was in service in Cotton college till 1998, I think. I graduated from Cotton College in 1985. We had exactly 5 teachers in the Department of Statistics teaching us - everyone having their own impact. JD sir had an impact on me like a 'bang'. As strong as his voice was, while teaching. He literally drilled into me the lessons of Probability. At first I was in awe. Then extreme respect, which till today remains as strong. My second lesson was when he refused to take up formal tuition when my dad approached him, instead offered his help when and wherever possible and as how long. His notes have been used till the fag end of my statistics education.

He will never ever be forgotten by me and I believe all students who were taught by him. May our loved JD sir rest in peace.

**Dr. Lipi B. Mahanta**

*Associate Professor - I*

*Centre for Computational and Numerical Sciences  
Institute of Advanced Study in Science & Technology (IASST)*

## **Jishnu Dutta Sir-a tribute**

I feel quite honoured to have this opportunity of writing a few words on respected Jishnu Dutta Sir but at the same time, it is quite a difficult task to describe a great personality like him who is looked upon with high esteem by the Statistics fraternity. Going back to the early days, I first came across him in the year 1971 when we were the first year students of statistics (hons/major) in Cotton College. With gradual progress of the syllabus, we were introduced to the immense knowledge and insight which he mustered in topics like Real analysis, Probability, Pearsonian system of curves, Standard error of moments, Order statistics, Estimation theory, Design of experiment, to name a few. He would carry books by the likes of Cramer, Kendal, Weatherburn to the class, all of which would be open on the table but hardly did he find the need of referring to those during his explanations. Nevertheless the class notes provided by him had the combined touch from all those books taking it to a quite higher standard which undoubtedly made him a great teacher.

After his retirement, Sir and his family members became quite close to me and it was then when I witnessed his sacrifice towards his family members and society. Somewhere I read 'minimum requirements and maximum adjustments are two important steps towards happy and successful life' but his life had more share of sacrifices than adjustments which summarizes him as a great human being.

His demise is a great loss to the academic community. May his soul rest in peace

**Labananda .Choudhury**

*Department of Statistics, Gauhati University*

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## **In memory of Jishnu Dutta Sir**

Today i.e. 07.12.16, when I came to know that Jishnu Dutta Sir is no more , it really shocked me. He was the most dedicated teacher in the Department of Statistics of Cotton College during our student life (1984 – 1987). He taught almost all the topics of the B.Sc., Major course . I believe he was the most popular teacher for the Statistics community of Cotton College. It is a great loss not only for us, but the Statistics community of Cotton College at large. He was also a kind person who went out of his way to help everyone he knew. His helpful nature endeared him to all he came into contact with.

May his soul rest in peace.

**Dr. Gautam Choudhury**

*Associate Professor,*

*Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology*

## **A Humble Tribute to Jishnu Dutta Sir**

Prof Jishnu Dutta, "JD Sir" to many of us, left for his heavenly abode on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 at Bangalore. I have known Sir since August 1976, when I joined Cotton College as a Pre-University student. Later I joined my alma mater as a teacher and we worked together till his retirement as the Principal of Cotton College.

He was very passionate about teaching and loved going into the depth of the topic that he was teaching. Apart from being an admired and highly respected teacher, Sir was also a very supportive colleague. He was a fatherly figure to me and also close to my late father, who was a college teacher too. At my father's request, he readily agreed to help me and a close friend of mine with some difficult topics in mathematics and statistics for a couple of months at his college quarters. At the end of the first month, when both of us offered him fees in small envelopes, he scolded us and flatly refused to accept it. Throughout the period, Baideu showered us with her affection, not to mention the daily sweets and tea.

Later, when I sought his advice on taking Statistics at honours level for my graduation, he advised me to take Economics instead. He was very dignified in his conduct and measured in his conversations. A humble and quiet person by nature, his presence always had a positive influence on others.

After his retirement, Sir and Baideu stayed mostly outside Assam for long durations with their sons, resulting in temporary loss of contact between us.

It is indeed difficult to believe that JD Sir has left us so soon for his heavenly abode. On this day of his Adya Shraddha, we pray for his departed soul. May God give his family and us the strength to move on in life, cherishing his fond memories.

**Dr. (Ms.) Padma Sharma Goswami,**  
*Associate Professor,  
Department Of Economics,  
Cotton College, Guwahati.*



## **It is very difficult to express . . . .**

It is very difficult to express my feeling in few words about Dutta sir (our JD sir). I was a student of JD Sir from 1983-88 (PU+TDC). In the beginning of PU 1st year I found the subject very difficult. But I do not hesitate to say today that it was mostly JD Sir for whom I have learnt to love the subject Statistics & later on to read the books authored by great statisticians. Sir encouraged us to purchase these books that too from annual book fairs , so that we could save some money.

JD Sir was a very busy person with all his assignments. But he never forgot to enquire about our doubts in any topic. Once ,sir could not find time during college hours & asked us (me & Pranati Medhi) to come to his quarter at 4 o'clock in the morning to clear our doubts & we did so.

JD Sir was a kind of teacher who never forced us to do something. But we loved him so much that that we loved to do everything he asked us to do. We all have lost a great teacher. May the Almighty bestow peace to his departed soul & courage to his family members to bear this irreparable loss.

**Monimala Neog,**  
*Department of Statistics ,  
Dibrugarh University.*

## **My tribute to Prof Jishnu Datta**

Sir is my mentor... my guru. What I am today is to a great extent due to his nurturing and guidance. Indeed he has contributed a lot in building my academic career. Sir was a man of few words but he could convey a lot to the students which helped make a mark in their lives. A very sincere and honest man, Sir was extremely intelligent and efficient but he always maintained a low profile. Nevertheless, one who came in contact with him could never ever forget him. His contributions towards the administrative aspects of Cotton College were also immense.

Sir's demise has left a void not only for the Statistics fraternity but for the whole academic world.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to the grieved family and pray to the Almighty to give them the strength to bear this great loss. May his soul rest in peace.

**Dr Runjun Phookun**

*Associate Professor  
Head, Dept. Of Mathematics & Statistics  
K.C.Das Commerce College, Guwahati*

## Remembering Jishnu Dutta Sir

It was a feeling of unbearable pain for me when I heard about the sad demise of our beloved and most respected Dutta Sir. A prominent Statistician is lost. But most seriously, Assam has lost a great teacher. An irreparable loss. I feel myself very fortunate to have him as my teacher in Cotton College and as colleague in the Statistics Department in the same college later. The most valuable aspect of Dutta Sir that I saw and experienced was the ethics he followed in his life and work. The way he taught us Statistics remained unparalleled. The way he delivered his duty as a teacher in Cotton College that I could experience closely for three years as his junior colleague has remained as a permanent guide in my life.

May his soul rest in peace.

**Pradip Bhuyan**

*(a student of Dutta Sir)*

## Remembering Professor Jishnu Datta

I was a student of JD sir, first in a school for a very brief period, then in Cotton College. And then I became his colleague in Cotton College. Today I think, even during the days when I was his junior colleague, he remained a teacher for me, not just in academic matters but in other matters of life as well. I am sure he was also a true friend of mine, he had all his friendly affections for me but from out of my reverence for him, I always tend to look at him as a teacher.

1964-67, during the three years degree course with honours in Statistics he was my mentor alongwith BD (Banshi Das), NK (Nanidhar Kalita), JB (Jyotish Barua). All of them were dedicated teachers, in their shadow I have grown to to join them as a teacher in the department of Statistics in 1970.

During my student days, JD sir will occasionally invite me to their house in Das Bhai Colony of Rehabari on Sundays, and I must confess now, he was more enthusiastic than his student in understanding the various concepts in our curriculum. In the class room he would teach us Mathematical analysis during the first year, and even today his voice resonates in my years.

It was a long association with him, from 1970 to 1994, as a colleague, and during that period so close was the relation that I became a member of his extended family, he would never hesitate to ask me to do something for him and I would always try to make him happy.

As a colleague he would always like to impose on me that part of the syllabus in which I am not comfortable, but that is his tricks, and I had to obey, in this process I have learnt to overcome my weaknesses in teaching. He will often challenge my way of teaching and in the process of proving myself, I had to work hard and then he will smile -- 'now you know that you can if you try'. And that is great lesson I have learnt from him – which has saw me in achieving many targets.

Probability was his forte, and yet he forced me to take up probability for honours classes, and today I am more than happy to acknowledge that I did it. And then 'Testing of Hypotheses' – here also it is him who insisted that I deal with it in the honours classes and again I took up the

challenge and proved myself, and he smiled. That is JD for his admiring junior colleague.

Today when he is no more with us, I only admire him as a person of integrity, learning and revere him for his great and liberated mind.

My learning about Statistics, teaching and about the life would have remained incomplete had I have not known him for about half a century.

I had often have debates with him about all the sundries of everyday life, and I would be admiring him for his steadfastness.

Though I have not been in touch with him since his children have become successful in life and settled elsewhere, I now feel that now I will be missing him for ever.

**Biswajit Chakrabarty**

*Retired from Cotton College in 1994*

## Long Live JD Sir

My association with Dutta sir had been of a long 8 years, from 1992, when I joined cotton college as a higher secondary student, till 2000, when I passed out from there after my Master Degree in Statistics. A man of few words, Dutta sir had very little to discuss with us apart from statistics. Though in my higher secondary days I hardly interacted with sir, may be out of fear to talk to a person who knew so much 'probability theory' and myself, who could not even understand the difference between mutually exclusive and exhaustive events, yet I never missed JD sir's classes because I was mesmerized by his teaching techniques and his prolific use of oxymorons impressed me a lot. Sir was never rude to his students but his sarcastic way of referring to students as being 'regularly irregular', 'occasional visitor', etc. made us conscious about sir's eye on our class attendance....!

Dutta Sir was a teacher in true sense. Once, in the year 1993, there was a bomb hoax call and administrative block of cotton college was emptied at once at around 1pm. Automatically all classes got cancelled and we were all standing outside the main building. At 2.45pm we had Dutta sir's class. Though we knew no class would be held, still some of us just went in to peep into statistics dept..... There was dutta sir, sitting all alone. One of us went forward and asked sir... 'sir class tu hob neki?'... Sir said.... 'Bomb nai... Tumaluk asa, Moyu asu... Hobo class...' We were shocked and sad...wanted to go back home soon but JD sir's sincerity did not allow us to go home early on that special day too. That was Dutta sir... true to his duty... towards his students.... towards cotton college....

During our practical exams, sir would treat us with samosa and tea, because he felt students would feel hungry writing for long four hours ..... That was Dutta sir.... A compassionate father... A guardian....

Once, when sir entered our classroom in degree class, as a normal rule, we all stood up, and I greeted sir.... Good afternoon sir.... Sir nodded his head with a small smile and reciprocated .... 'orthogonal polynomials'.... That was Dutta sir.. A true statistician... A lover of statistics.... A true learner ..... A true teacher...!!!!

Today, on this day, when sir is no more in our midst, I wonder what sir would remark when he reads this small piece of write up of mine.... Sir please bear with me.... By now you must be busy making heaven 'statistically literate'...Though life and death are mutually exclusive events, yet for dutta sir its is a special case....sir you shall always be with us ....We love you a lot and you will always be in our prayer..... Long live JD SIR

**Dr. Aditi Das, Asst professor, Gauhati Commerce College**

## **JD Sir, I would always remember you**

All gurus impart knowledge but some really continues to be guru through out like as unknowingly they impact the mould in a student and readies him to face the complexities of life.

Jishnu Dutta sir, remains an example of such a guru although same may not have been realised by most his students who are serious in their studies and drives life with a moto.

I was considered as an intelligent boy, but definitely not as a student and probably that's the reason why most of my teachers looked at me as 'OK fine'.

I was very selective in attending classes and at times when there were nothing else to do used to attend classes of teachers who were not in my selection list.

Jishnu Dutta sir, probably noticed my discreetness and while I attended one or two of his classes and maybe was present in few consecutive classes and there he made a difference in my life without even telling me anything.....

He started asking me and me only where did we stop in the previous class. Never realised that I was a target of a different kind unless when in more than one occasion when I attended his class without carried my notebook....he asked asked me and when I said " Sir I have got my note book" he did not ask any one of the serious lot who would have replied but said " ok no issue" and started his lecture on another subject and that made me sweat.

Just not be face such ockward situations had started attending all his classes and my life started moving differently and may be because of his approach today I am able to successfully retire All India Head of Information System - Marketing Operation of a Navaratna PSU.

Sir, wherever you are would always remember you as my mould a guru that matters.

With prayer for the noble soul.

**Pradip Sarma**

*1975 batch*

## **My tribute to JD Sir**

Sir was very disciplined in nature and knew his subject in and out. He was methodical in his teaching and was an unbiased individual. He was and is respected by one and all who have known him.

We were really fortunate to have learnt the subject under his supervision. May his soul rest in peace!

**Muktamala Choudhury, (PMP,CSM) |**

*Manager,Software Development,  
Ellucian Higher Education Systems India Private Limited,  
Bangalore 560025 M:+91.9880551824*



## “টু ছাৰ উইথ লাভ”

কোনোবাই যদি প্ৰশ্ন কৰে এজন ভাল শিক্ষক কেনে হ'ব লাগে, মোৰ উত্তৰ হ'ব এজন প্ৰকৃততে ভাল আৰু কৃতী শিক্ষক সেইজন, যিজনে ছাত্ৰৰ মনৰ পৰা বিষয়টোলৈ থকা ভয় একেবাৰে নোহোৱা কৰি দিব পাৰে। জিষ্ণু দত্ত ছাৰে মোৰ মনৰ পৰা কেৱল সম্ভাৱিতাৰ ভয় আঁতৰ কৰাই নহয়, জীৱনৰ সকলো ধুমুহাৰ সৈতে মুখামুখি হ'বলৈও সাহস আৰু প্ৰেৰণা যোগাইছিল।

বয়, স্থিতপ্ৰজ্ঞ এইজন জিষ্ণু দত্ত ছাৰৰ কথাই কৈছোঁ। যাক কোনো ধুমুহাই বিচলিত কৰিব পৰা নাছিল আৰু অতীব আনন্দৰ মূহুৰ্ত্তইও অধীৰ নকৰিছিল। যিজনে জানিছিল মাথোঁ সন্মুখৰ কৰ্ত্তব্য সকলোৰে ওপৰত। সেয়া ঘৰতেই হওক নতুবা কৰ্মক্ষেত্ৰতে হওক।

ছাত্ৰ অৱস্থাৰ প্ৰথমৰ পৰাই দেখিছিলোঁ এইজন ক্ষীণ অথচ দৃঢ় মনৰ ছাৰক। প্ৰয়োজনত কঠোৰ, পৰিস্থিতি সাপেক্ষে অতি মৰমিয়াল। ছাত্ৰৰ ফলাফল ভাল কৰিবলৈ ছাৰৰ যত্ন আৰু সহায়ৰ হাত আছিল অসীম।

তাৰ পিছত পালোঁ সহকৰ্মী হৈ ছাৰক বেছি ওচৰৰ পৰা বুজিবলৈ আৰু চিনি পাবলৈ এক সুবৰ্ণ সুযোগ। মই বুজি পালোঁ যে এজনকৃতী শিক্ষক আৰু দক্ষ প্ৰশাসক হোৱাৰ উপৰিও ছাৰ আছিল এজন কৰ্ত্তব্যপৰায়ণ মৰমিয়াল ভ্ৰাতৃ, বাইদেউৰ মৰমৰ আদৰ্শ স্বামী, বুৱন-তুৱনৰ দৰে পুত্ৰৰ দায়িত্বশীল পিতৃ আৰু বহুতৰে সৎ শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষী বন্ধু।

জীৱনে আৰু সময়ে ছাৰক অধিক আত্মশ্লাসী আৰু ধৈৰ্য্যশীল কৰি তুলিছিল। যিখন পৃথিৱীত এসময়ত দয়া, মায়া, সততা, ন্যায়, নিষ্ঠা আদি মানবীয় গুণবোৰক সন্মান জনোৱা হৈছিল, সেই শেষ হৈ যোৱা পৃথিৱীখনৰে ছাৰো এজন আছিল। সেইবাবেই হয়তো ছাৰক আমি কোনেও পাহৰি নাযাওঁ।

ছাৰ স্বৰ্গগামী হ'ল কথাষাৰ শুনি প্ৰথমে ভাবিছিলোঁ ছাৰক শেষবাৰৰ বাবে মাত এষাৰ লগাবলৈও নেপালোঁ। এতিয়া ভাবিছোঁ ভগ্ন স্বাস্থ্যৰ, অসহায় ছাৰক শেষত দেখা নোপোৱাৰ আক্ষেপ নকৰাই ভাল। তথাপিও মনক বুজনি দিবলৈ কষ্ট পাইছোঁ আমি সকলোৰে। ছাৰৰ স্বৰ্গগত আত্মাই সৰগতে স্থান পাওঁক।

তাৰেই প্ৰাৰ্থনাৰে মোৰ শ্ৰদ্ধাঞ্জলি যাচিছো। ছাৰৰ আশীৰ্বাদ শিৰত লৈ বুবুন, টুবুনে ছাৰৰ দায়িত্ববোৰ সম্পাদন কৰি যাবলৈ ভগবানে সাহস দিয়ক বাট দেখুৱাই দিয়ক।

কটন মহাবিদ্যালয়ৰ নতুন প্ৰজন্মক ছাৰৰ দৰে শিক্ষক সকলক চিনাকী কৰাই দিয়াৰ দায়িত্ব সমূহ কটন পৰিয়ালৰে আছে বুলি সকলোৱে বুজে নিশ্চয়। মই এই ক্ষেত্ৰত পৰিসংখ্যা বিভাগৰ সমূহ শিক্ষকক এই গুৰু দায়িত্ব ল'বলৈ অনুৰোধ জনাইছো।

**ৰজিতা ৰাজকুমাৰী**

কটন কলেজৰ পৰিসংখ্যা বিভাগৰ পৰা অৱসৰপ্ৰাপ্ত।



