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Obituary : Prof. Emeritus Dr. Girendra Pal

Subhash Kaushik

Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, India, subhashccrh@gmail.com

Praveen Oberai

Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, India, oberai.praveen@gmail.com

Nidhi Mahajan

Central Research Institute, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, drnidhimahajan1@gmail.com

Chetna Deep Lamba

Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, India, drchetnalamba@gmail.com

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Abstract

The death of legendary and philanthropist Homoeopath Dr. Girendra Pal which occurred in Jaipur on 24th August 2022, will be mourned by all Homoeopathic fraternity and his beloved patients, family and friends. He practiced and popularised homoeopathy in Rajasthan and is rightly known as Father of Homoeopathy in Rajasthan.

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The authors are indebted to his family for sharing the valuable details of Dr. Girendra Pal's life.

Obituary: Prof. Emeritus Dr. Girendra Pal

Subhash Kaushik¹, Praveen Oberai¹, Nidhi Mahajan², Chetna Deep Lamba^{1*}

¹Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, India, ²Central Research Institute, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India



Dr. Girendra Pal
(15 November 1938 - 24 August 2022)

A legend, philanthropist, reformer and a strong pillar of Homoeopathy, Dr. Girendra Pal was born on 15, November, 1938, in Karauli, Rajasthan. He completed his graduation (Graduate of Homoeopathic Medicine and Surgery) from National Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, Lucknow in 1962. He later completed his M.D. (Hom) in Organon of Medicine from Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Agra in 2005. After his untiring services of nearly six decades in the field of clinical practice, education and research, Dr. Pal breathed his last on 24 August, 2022.

He practiced and popularised homoeopathy in Rajasthan and is rightly known as *Father of Homoeopathy in Rajasthan*. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Homoeopathic Medical College at Jaipur, Rajasthan in 1965, despite the constraints of budget and space. This college later went on to become the first-homoeopathic college in Rajasthan to impart graduation degree, and then the first college in India imparting postgraduation degree (M.D. Homoeopathy).

With his untiring zeal and visionary attitude, Dr. Pal didn't stop his efforts there, which paved way for the establishment of the first, and till now, the only *Homoeopathy University* in the world.

The credit for the formation of the Rajasthan Homoeopathic Medicine Board which has been granting registration for

D.H.M.S. Diploma course since 1977 and for B.H.M.S. degree course subsequently since 1983 to practice in the state also goes to this multi-faceted man. Thereafter, as a member of the Syndicate of University of Rajasthan, Dr. Pal initiated and ensured the formation of the Faculty of Homoeopathy in the University, thereby providing a strong foothold for the homoeopathic education system in the state.

Talking of education, Dr. Pal has significantly contributed to the improvement of Homoeopathic education in his 24 years of membership of the Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH), where he served in various capacities including Chairman, P.G. Education Committee; Chairman, Finance Committee, and Member, Executive Committee. Dr. Pal contributed to the development of quality-based education system in Homoeopathy at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, thus ensuring sustained quality of homoeopathic colleges across India since the early years of CCH.

Dr. Girendra Pal initiated the establishment of Clinical Research Unit (Homoeopathy) under Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) in Jaipur in December 1979. This was later upgraded to Homeopathic Research Institute for Malaria in 1992; subsequently to Regional Research Institute for Homoeopathy (RRIH), in August 2004; and finally upgraded to Central Research Institute of Homoeopathy (CRIH), Jaipur on February 2019. He had been generous to provide free accommodation to run the Unit/Institute until the RRIH upgraded as CRIH and shifted in its own premises in the year 2019. He provided administrative supervision as the Project Officer of this Institute since its inception in 1979, till February 2022, with utmost sincerity and dedication. He immensely contributed to the progress and smooth functioning of the Institute. Under his able guidance, the Institute could achieve many accomplishments

***Address for correspondence:** Dr. Chetna Deep Lamba, Research Officer, Scientist -3, Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, 61-65, Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi - 110 058, India.
Email: drchetnalamba@gmail.com

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in homoeopathic research, including studies on helminthiasis, malaria, bronchial asthma, poliomyelitis, paediatric diarrhoea, intermittent fever, benign prostate hypertrophy, infective hepatitis, herpes zoster, mumps, renal calculus, chronic sinusitis, gastroenteritis, urolithiasis, acute otitis media, acute haemorrhoidal condition, cervical spondylosis, chronic rhinosinusitis, etc., Many quality publications have resulted based on these research projects taken up during his tenure.

He had also been a member of 'Scientific Advisory Committee' of the Council and contributed significantly in that capacity for quality research. His scientific aptitude, analytical mind and zeal to contribute in research have always been appreciated by the Council. The Council is indebted to him for his unconditional support.

Not only this, Dr. Pal had always extended full support to all the activities for development of Homoeopathy. 'National Campaign on Mother and Child Health', Healthy Child Program, Scheduled Caste Sub Plan program, Swasthya Rakshan Program, distribution of *Arsenicum album* 30 under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava among the masses of Rajasthan, and other COVID-19-related studies of CCRH were taken up at CRIH, Jaipur, under his guidance.

Dr. Pal also took a full interest in organising national congresses and Continued Medical Education (CME)

programs in his state. He had presented papers as a resource person in 51 conferences at National and International events/ seminars and published research papers in various journals and magazines. He was felicitated with 26 awards at various national and international platforms. He also propagated and popularised Homoeopathy all over the world by contributing regularly in *Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis*. Homoeopathy was not only his profession but passion. He even named his residence as 'Homoeopathy Bhawan', which reflects his sheer love for Homoeopathy. Dr Girendra Pal has left an indelible mark on the profession and on the countless students who were fortunate to learn from him. The profession will fondly remember him for his unparalleled contribution in the field of education, research and practice of Homoeopathy. His disarming smile and wonderful influence on all of us will be missed, but never forgotten.

His genius prescriptions, humble nature and graceful personality made him revered by the masses. A man of few words, he never used the opportunities, donations or rewards that came his way for his personal interest, and dedicated them all for building up and expanding the infrastructure of Homoeopathy. He always taught his students to study and practice homoeopathy with sincerity and then rewards will follow automatically. He so walked the talk.