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**Prof (Dr) Dhirendra Nath Nandi**  
(1918-2016)

In the history of Indian psychiatry Dr. D N Nandi is one of the names to be remembered throughout the time. He left behind an impressive body of work and an iconic style that still influence psychiatrists today.

He was born on 13th August, 1918 in a remote village of Bankura District of Bengal, India. Dr. Nandi started his medical education in the university of Calcutta and graduated in medicine in the year 1945. He obtained Masters in Science (Psychology) in the year 1950 and was also awarded PhD in Psychological Medicine in the year 1958. Then he continued his study in the U.K and passed Diploma in Psychiatry from Scotland in the year 1961. Again looking forward he prepared for M.R.C.P and passed the examination in 1963 from Edinburgh and later was awarded Fellowship of Royal College of Psychiatry, London.

Formally, he started his career in psychiatry as a teacher in Calcutta University in 1970 and later on became the professor and head of the department of psychological medicine of University College of Medicine.

After the pioneer psychiatrist, Dr. G S Bose, the man who carried on his work in the field of psychoanalysis in India was Dr. D. N Nandi. Later his contribution in this field was acclaimed all over India by many prestigious institutes with various prizes. He was awarded with Marfatia award by Indian Psychiatric Society in the year 1976, Coats Gold Medal award by University of Calcutta in the year 1984, D.L.N. Murthi Rao oration award by Indian Psychiatric Society in the year 1985, Bombay Psychiatric Society Silver Jubilee Award by Indian Psychiatric Society in the year 1985, Adhar Chandra Memorial oration award by University of Calcutta in the year 1991, Poona Psychiatric Society award by Indian Psychiatric Society both in the years 1993 and 2002, N. N. Dey oration award by Indian Association of Social Psychiatry in the year 1995, Sir William Jones Medal for best research by Asiatic Society in 2002, Sir Ronald Ross Memorial Oration Award by Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research in the year 2002 and with Sudhir Chandra Mitra plaque for eminent work in psychology by Asiatic Society in the year 2006.

He extended his hands with Indian Red Cross Society to develop public awareness in the society regarding mental illness. To enable the masses to understand the importance of mental health, he wrote "Moner Bikar o Pratikar", which is still a very famous book in local language for understanding of psychiatric disorders with ease. He also remained the chief editor of "Moner Katha", a popular quarterly magazine, dealing with different aspects of mental health. He also played the key role in starting post graduate diploma in psychiatric counselling under Netaji Subhas Open University, Calcutta. This was another great contribution towards psychiatry.

He had many important publications in national as well as international psychiatric journals of repute. He had carried out epidemiological studies in rural communities of Bengal and other parts of India which came out as key publications in 1975 and 1979 and are still widely cited.

He was one of the founder members of Royal College of Psychiatry, London and remained the president of various popular and prestigious psychiatric associations in India like Indian Association of Social Psychiatry, Indian Psychiatric Society and Indian Psycho-Analytical Society.

