

SANCHETI TODAY

LEGACY OF COMPASSION. COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE.

ESTD. 1936

PUNE, FRIDAY, 24 JULY 2026

CELEBRATING
90
YEARS
OF AN
EXTRAORDINARY
JOURNEY

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF PURPOSE, SERVICE & VALUES

Happy 90th Birthday
Dr. K. H. SANCHETI

A visionary. A healer. A humanist.

Dr. K. H. Sancheti's life is a shining example of how one person's compassion, integrity and commitment can transform millions of lives and build an institution that stands the test of time.

Reflections from the Editor

Celebrating 90 years of my father is not just a family milestone, it is a celebration of a life that has touched countless others. To many, he is a pioneering orthopaedic surgeon, a visionary institution builder, a teacher, and a mentor. To us, he has always been a source of quiet strength, humility, and unwavering values.

This special edition of Sancheti Today is our tribute to the remarkable journey of a man whose legacy is reflected not only in hospitals and awards, but in the lives he has healed, inspired, and transformed.

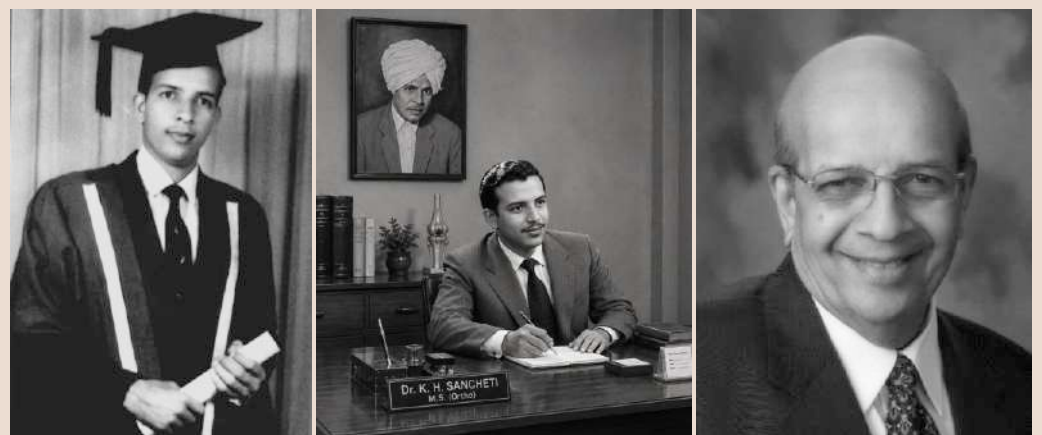
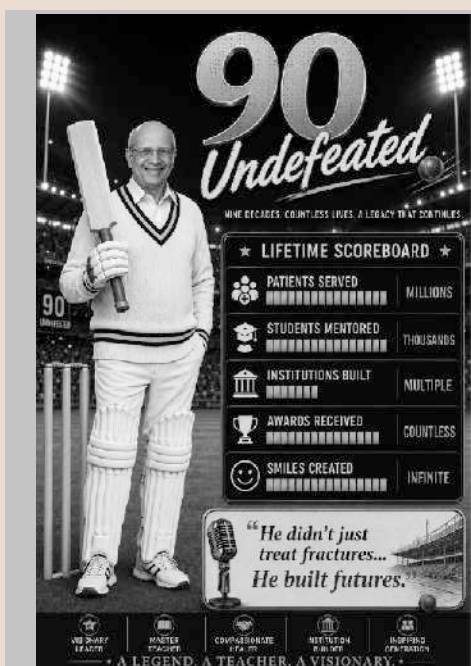
Every page reflects the gratitude and affection of family, friends, colleagues, students, patients, and countless others who have been fortunate to be part of his remarkable journey.

On behalf of our entire family, I thank everyone who has contributed to this keepsake and to **Pappa's** extraordinary legacy. We hope these pages bring a smile, rekindle cherished memories, and inspire future generations to carry forward the values he has lived by.

Happy 90th Birthday, Pappa.

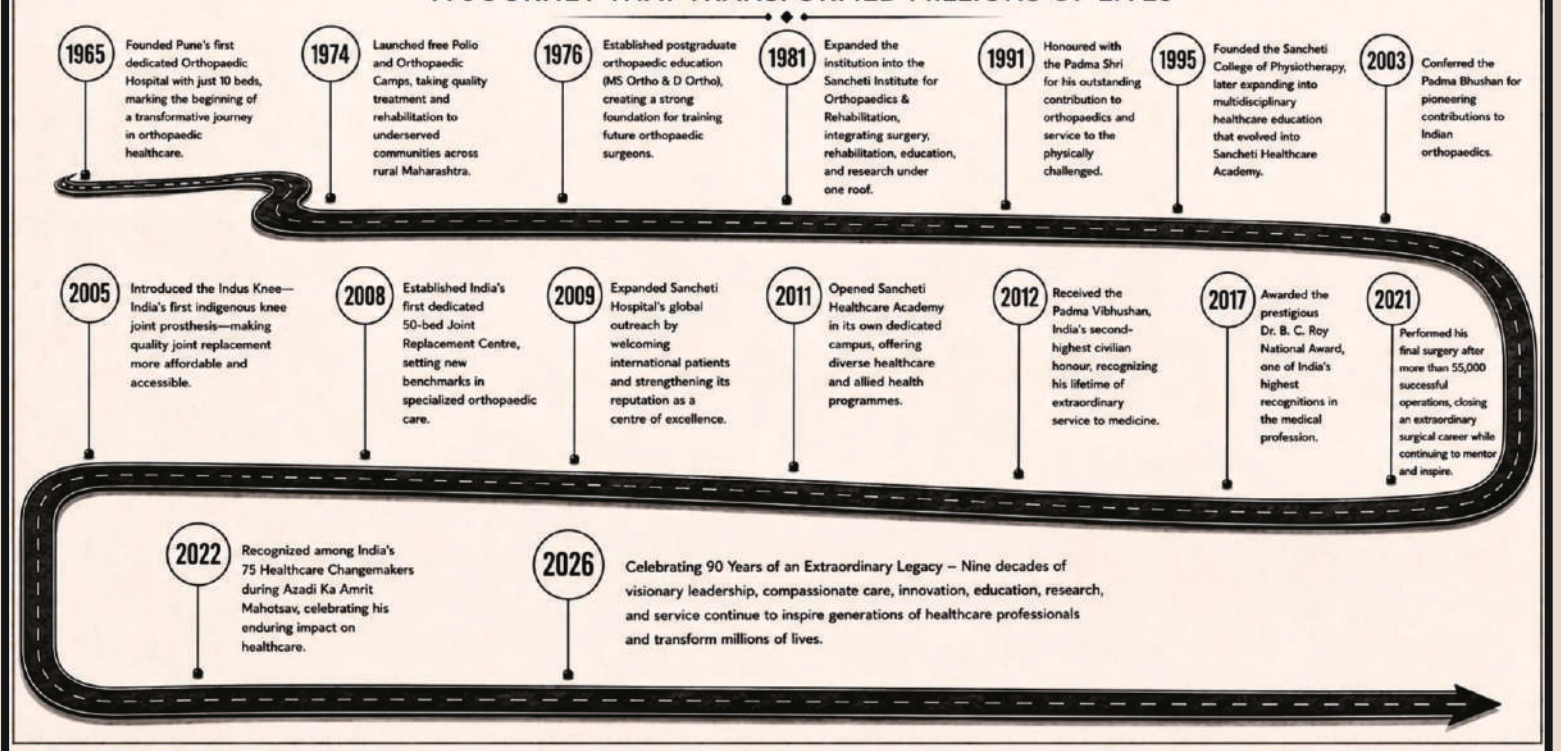
Your greatest achievement has never been what you built, it has always been the lives you have touched.

With love and gratitude,
Dr. Manisha Sanghavi



THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF - DR. K. H. SANCHETI -

A JOURNEY THAT TRANSFORMED MILLIONS OF LIVES





‘सेवेचा, समर्पणाचा आणि साधेपणाचा प्रेरणादायी प्रवास’ डॉ. कांतीलाल यांना ९० व्या वाढदिवसानिमित्त शुभेच्छा!

आज या प्रसंगी सांगण्यासारख्या आमच्या सहजीवनातील अनेक भावस्पर्शी आणि आनंददायी आठवणी आहेत. पहिल्याच भेटीत डॉ. कांतीलाल यांनी अनपेक्षितपणे माझ्याविषयी सकारात्मक भावना व्यक्त केली आणि लग्नासाठी मागणीच घातली. त्यानंतर दोन्ही कुटुंबांच्या संमतीने वैवाहिक जीवनाची सुरुवात झाली.

डॉक्टरांच्या शांत, संयमी, साध्या आणि प्रेमळ स्वभावामुळे कुटुंबात कायम आनंदाचे व सकारात्मक

वातावरण राहिले. प्रत्येक प्रसंगात समजूतदारपणे वागणे, प्रत्येकाला आपलेसे करणे आणि व्यस्त दिनक्रमातूनही कुटुंबासाठी वेळ देणे, हे त्यांच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचे विशेष पैलू मला नमूद करावेसे वाटतात. अनेक कठीण प्रसंगातून शिकत ते पुढे जात राहिले. मोठी स्वप्न पाहिली आणि ती पूर्णही केली. समाजासाठी मोठे कार्य केले. आई वडिल आणि कुटुंबियांचा कायम आदर केला, त्यांची काळजी घेतली. त्यांच्याकडे बघूनच मुलं खूप काही शिकली. मला पत्नी म्हणून त्यांच्या कार्याचा खरंच खूप अभिमान वाटतो. माझ्या परीने जेव्हा जेव्हा जशी गरज पडेल तशी मी मदत करत गेले. नर्सिंग चे शिक्षण घेऊन त्यांच्या सोबत हॉस्पिटल मध्ये रुग्णांची सेवा केली. माझेही आयुष्य सार्थकी लागले अशी भावना आज माझ्या मनात येते.

डॉक्टरांच्या विसरभोळ्या स्वभावाच्या काही गमतीदार आठवणीही आज डोळ्यासमोर येत आहेत. त्यांची संवाद साधण्याची विनोदी शैली, घराच्या

किंवा गाडीच्या चाव्या विसरणे, तर एखाद्या दिवशी अनपेक्षितपणे लवकर घरी येऊन संपूर्ण घरात आश्चर्याचे वातावरण निर्माण करणे, असे अनेक प्रसंग आजही आम्ही सर्व कुटुंबीय हसत-खेळत आठवत असतो.

आजोबा म्हणून मुलांवर, विशेषतः नातींवर असलेले त्यांचे अपार प्रेम, तसेच व्यस्त जीवनातही कुटुंबाला दिलेला अमूल्य वेळ हीच त्यांच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाची खरी ओळख आहे असे मला वाटते.

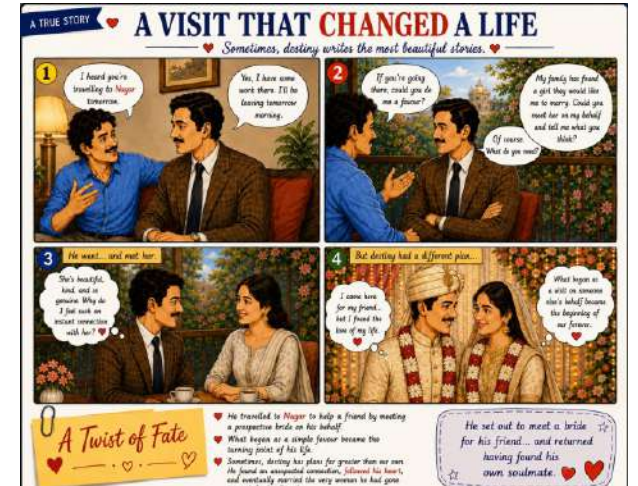
‘पुन्हा आयुष्य जगण्याची संधी मिळाली तरी मी यांच्याशीच विवाह करेन.’

डॉ. कांतीलाल यांना निरोगी, आनंदी आणि दीर्घायुषी जीवनासाठी शुभेच्छा. नव्या पिढीतील डॉक्टरांनी आणि

कुटुंबियांनी परस्परांचा आदर, विश्वास आणि समजूतदारपणा जपत समाजसेवेचे हे व्रत असेच जोपासावे, ही ईश्वरचरणी प्रार्थना.

– सौ. अनुराधा संचेती, पत्नी

शब्दांकन – ज्योती पाठारे, संचेती हेल्थकेअर अकॅडमी



My Father My Hero

When I think of my father, I don't just see an extraordinary orthopaedic surgeon or the founder of Sancheti Hospital, I see a man who believed that every patient deserved the best care, irrespective of their background.

What shaped him was an unwavering sense of purpose. He never chased success; he chased excellence and service. His life was guided by discipline, humility, hard work and an unshakeable belief that medicine is a calling, not merely a profession. He taught us that institutions are built on values, integrity, and trust.

To me, he has been a person who leads by example. For him actions truly speak louder than words

One of the toughest lessons he taught me was that there are no shortcuts to excellence and good results. He taught me to have a vision ... a goal.

As a young surgeon, I often wanted to move faster, make decisions quicker, and was in a hurry to prove myself. But he constantly reminded me that every patient places their life in our hands, and that trust can never be compromised for convenience or speed.

He was demanding, not because he expected perfection, but because he expected sincerity, preparation, and

honesty. At times those lessons felt difficult, but today they have become the foundation of my professional and personal life.

Most people know him as a legendary surgeon, teacher, and institution builder.

He has an amazing ability to lighten even the most stressful situations with a simple remark or a warm smile. He remembers names, stories, and little details about people that surprise everyone.

He has always enjoyed meeting people and making everyone, from the senior most colleague to the youngest employee, feel valued. His greatest hidden talent is making people believe they can achieve more than they ever imagined.

The greatest gift Papa gave me was not my education or the institution I inherited. He gave me values.

He taught me that reputation is earned over decades but can be lost in moments. He taught me humility in success, grace in failure, respect for every individual, and the importance of giving back to society.

Whenever I face a difficult decision, I still ask myself, "What would Papa have done?" That inner compass is the greatest inheritance I have received.

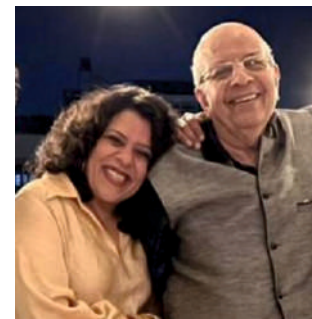
One conversation has stayed with me throughout my life.

He once told me, "Never do anything unethical. Never do a surgery which is not indicated. Keep working with honesty, and everything else will follow. If ever in doubt do what you would for your own sister or own mother or own son"

Those words have guided me through every milestone, every challenge, and every important decision. They remain as relevant today as they were when I first heard them.

If I Had to Describe Him in One Word... Inspiration, Larger than life

– Dr. Parag Sancheti
Son



The Home Coming Ritual

He has always been a busy man, his day began before ours and stretched late into the night. But the moment he came home, his arms would open, and I would run straight into them. He would lift me up (when I was 50 kgs lighter, of course) ... he would hold me close, and the hours he had been away simply stopped counting. That was his quiet magic, thousands of patients needed him, and yet one hug, and I had all of him. What people don't know is how much those hugs built me. My sense of safety, of belonging, of being loved without condition or judgement it all began in those strong arms of my papa.

And then there's his lightness. Everyone knows his humor, patients walk into his room anxious and walk out smiling, with the feeling that they were going to be just fine, healed as much by his humor, wit and warmth as by his skill. But what I have watched all my life is how he brings that lightness to everything. A tense moment, a worried face, a problem that feels too heavy, one perfectly timed line from him, and suddenly the whole room breathes again. He taught me, that no problem is so heavy that a little lightness can't lift it.

Even today, nothing has changed. I walk up to him, rest my head on his shoulder, and wait. His hand comes to rest gently on my head, and he says one word – "Rupu." That's still my favourite word in the world. The world has honoured him with three Padma awards. But my papa's greatest honour needs no citation, it's the word "Rupu," and it belongs only to me.

– Rupal Sancheti
Daughter

Dear Papa

I very clearly remember meeting you around 45 years ago, I was and am still in total awe of you and your personality, always in your standard attire of white shirt and trousers. Over the years through our various interactions, you made me so comfortable, you always discussed so many issues, always wanting to know about so many things, even today and those discussions really made an impact on my life and relations with others. The evening sessions with visit to Corporation are still etched in my mind, you gave so much knowledge and guidance and I was very fortunate enough to get so much time and advise from you.

Your insight into everything, even though it is outside your domain of expertise –and your invaluable advise and guidance has been invaluable in shaping our personalities and life.

Your humor and jokes and the twinkle in your eyes when you laugh is so contagious.

Lastly Papa, A true gentleman, wise and full of warmth and care, we all are lucky to have you as a friend and father.

Thank you for welcoming me into your family with open arms and warm heart and for all your valuable conversations and guidance.

– Anand Sanghavi
Son-in-law



When I married Parag

32 years ago, I knew I was marrying into an extraordinary family. But little did I know that I was also gaining one of the finest father figures anyone could ever wish for.

At first, Papa's larger-than-life personality intimidated me. He was admired everywhere, respected by everyone, and had achieved so much that I wondered if I would ever be comfortable around him.

It didn't take long for those fears to disappear. Behind the celebrated surgeon was a wonderfully warm, approachable,

and affectionate human being who always made me feel heard and understood. He never lectured, he simply guided, gently and wisely.

One thing I admire immensely is his ability to appreciate even the smallest effort. His words of encouragement have motivated so many of us to aim higher and become better every day.

His kindness, generosity, and compassion are qualities that cannot be measured. And what amazes me most is that even at 90,

his enthusiasm for learning, his curiosity, and his excitement for life remain infectious.

To me, Papa is not defined by the awards he has won or the institutions he has built. He is defined by the countless lives he has touched and the love he has given so generously.

He is truly one in a million, and I feel incredibly blessed to call him my father.

Happy 90th Birthday Papa!!

– Archana Sancheti
Daughter-in-law

The Father I Gained

I did not choose my father but I chose to marry Rupal and in doing so I was given a father I didn't expect, one who did not raise me but somehow still shaped me.

He is Dr. K.H. Sancheti to the world. Padma Vibhushan, pioneer of Indian orthopaedics, the man who built a ten-bed hospital into a legacy that walks on its own two feet today.

But to me, slowly, over the years, He became Papa.

First Impression vs. Today

I remember the first time I saw him. I may have been around 18 at that time. It wasn't an introduction. It wasn't even a meeting, really. It was at their house. I was there to see Rupal when we were dating. He didn't know that yet. I certainly didn't mention it. I just remember being nervous, the kind of nervousness that has nothing to do with what someone says to you and everything to do with who they are. I knew his stature before I knew his smile. Stature, when you are young and unsure, has a way of making you go quiet. So I stayed formal, measured my words, watched more, spoke less. I had no idea that evening, that the man I was

quietly observing would one day be someone who would shape my life.

Today, there is no formality left, Today I don't enter nervous. I enter curious because I never know what he'll want to talk about next.

What Surprised Me Most

I expected a legend, I did not expect a student. That is what surprised me the most, that a man with more awards, more decades of mastery than I could list, still leans forward like a child when something new is placed in front of him.

Like Technology for instance. He asks about it the way a curious teenager would; genuinely wanting to understand. How does this work? Why does that happen? What does this really mean? Ego doesn't stand in the way of his questions. No fear of looking uninformed. Just a desire to always learn. That never diminished with age.

We have spent entire evenings this way, not talking about his achievements, just talking about anything that I have I read out to him, about ideas, about how things work. He never stops asking.



There is another thing that surprised me; he never once asked me how much I earned. He judged me on my intelligence, never on my income. That is a rare kind of respect to receive from someone who owes you nothing.

A Lesson I Now Pass to My Children

There is so much I could teach my children by simply pointing at him and asking them to watch how he lives life. The first lesson is obvious, but obvious doesn't make it small.

He built something extraordinary not through shortcuts, not through inheritance, but through decades of relentless, quiet hard work. Greatness, in his life, was never a single moment. It was a thousand ordinary mornings where he simply showed up and did the work again. I want my children to understand that this is what achievement actually looks like.

But the second lesson is the one I find myself thinking about even more. I have watched him speak to his driver with the same warmth, the same attention that he once gave to the President of India. Not a show of humility, just a belief that every person in front of him deserves to be seen. There is no bias based on someone's position in life. That, to me, is the truest measure of a man, not how he treats those who can do something for him, but how he treats those who cannot.

And then there is his humor, quick, warm, often at his own expense, never at the cost of someone else's dignity. He can lighten a room without ever making someone in it feel small.

So this is what I want to hand down to my own children: Work hard, without needing applause for it. Stay curious, no matter how much you already know. Judge people by their character, not their bank balance and treat everyone with the same warmth and undivided attention.

He did not raise me but somehow, he still taught me some of the most important things in life. I try to teach my own children that is the strange, quiet magic of the father I gained.

- Salil Bhargava

Son-in-law



Papa, KHS, is an enigmatic figure. Initially, I had little idea of the immense stature he commanded in the medical field. To me, he was first and foremost my father-in-law, a person who genuinely cared for me and someone who always gave Sonal all the time, love, and support she ever needed.

Wit, humour, humility, perseverance, logical thinking, a scientific temperament, business acumen, perfectionism, curiosity, hard work, cheerfulness, punctuality, joviality, deep commitment, and remarkable dexterity, these are just some of the qualities that define KHS. More importantly, he does not merely possess these virtues; he lives them every single day.

I am fortunate to know him in many roles, not only as my father-in-law, but also as a client and, at times, as a friend. Conversations with him are always

intellectually enriching. His reflections on what it truly means to be a professional invariably leaves me with something valuable to think about and learn from.

Using his one liner- "First agree, then Disagree" on him as my client was a revelation and has been used several times since to get ones point across in a smarter, better and less confrontational way.

He has inspired me not through words alone, but through the example he has set. His life is a testament to excellence pursued with humility, discipline balanced with warmth, and success accompanied by generosity. These are qualities that one aspires to have and hope our next generation can imbibe them as well.

- Rahul Gore

Son-in-law

True greatness is found not in recognition, but in the lives transformed along the way

Because You Lived...

Because You chose service before self, you built far more than a hospital, you created an institution founded on compassion, excellence, and education. Through your vision, Sancheti became not just a place of healing, a temple more than a hospital, and a place where future generations of doctors learned what it truly means to care.

Because You believed that knowledge must be shared, you trained generations of orthopaedic surgeons who continue to transform lives across India and around the world. Every operation they perform, every patient they heal, and every life they restore carries forward a part of your teaching. Through them, your healing hands continue to touch countless patients every single day.

Because You refused to let disability define a person's future, your lifelong service to children and adults affected by polio gave countless individuals the opportunity to stand, walk, work, and live with dignity. Every step they took became a testament to your compassion.

Because You dared to dream of India's first indigenous knee prosthesis, the Indus Knee, millions of patients were able to access knee replacement surgery at a cost they could afford. Your vision did not simply create an implant, it opened the doors of mobility and independence to people who might otherwise never have received treatment.

Because You lived with purpose, your legacy cannot be measured by awards, buildings, or milestones alone. It lives in every life restored, every student inspired, every institution strengthened, and every act of service that carries your values forward.

Because You lived, countless others walk with hope, and generations yet to come will continue to follow the path you so gracefully created. You gave us opportunities, values, purpose, and a legacy that reminds us every day that the greatest privilege in life is to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

- Dr Sahil Sanghavi

Grandson



The world knows you as Dr. Sancheti. I know you as Nana. The kindest, most caring grandfather we could ask for. Growing up, you and Nani always made us feel so loved and looked after, making every lunch, dinner and all the time we spent at your house feel special. I'm so lucky to be your granddaughter. ♥

If Someone Asked Me Who My Grandfather Is I would say he's the best doctor in the world. And if they asked me again, I would say he is the person who is always full of enthusiasm. Everytime we would meet him, he would pick me up and I would play tabla on his head. These are some of my fondest memories with him.

- Zoya Bhargava

Granddaughter



Scan & Discover
the Legacy of Dr. K. H. Sancheti



To, my Nana

Dr. K. H. Sancheti

On your 90th birthday, after having led such a full life, I hope this letter does your legacy justice.

Because you always truly cared, and chased knowledge, you are one of the best orthopaedic Ans this country has ever seen. You studied hard, within your means, and most importantly, you studied with the honest will to learn. It is one of the most important lessons I've learned from you, to be open and willing to learn from any and every possible opportunity.

Because you believed everyone deserves the best healthcare possible, regardless of status, caste or creed, Sancheti Hospital was born. You've touched and impacted innumerable lives in your career. I was lucky enough to be able to shadow you, and learn from how you interacted with patients in the OPD. It taught me the most important thing a doctor could learn, treat the patient, not the illness. The way every patient would just be put at ease with your ready smile, and trust you, I hope I can achieve that someday.

Because you believed in affordable and self-sufficient solutions, the INDUS knee was born.

Because you've stayed and led by example - we all truly believe - simplicity, humility, hard work and discipline is the key to a happy life. You've never measured your success in numbers. You have always practiced what you preach - be kind and serve humanity. I am lucky enough to have learned this by observation, for this is not something that can be taught.

Because you have always taught us that nothing is more important than family, we are so blessed to have each other, and be as close as we all are.

Your legacy is far larger and greater than anything that can be put into words. I see you in every patient who trustingly visits your hospital. Your National Awards. Your students. Your family. The common man, who we should all live to serve.

I am forever grateful that I am lucky enough to be your granddaughter.

I can only hope to make you proud.

- Dr Ira Gore
Granddaughter



Years from now, when my kids ask me about their great-grandfather, this is what I'll tell them.

When your great grandfather was young, our family used to run a kirana shop, but he never let his circumstances define his future. Through relentless hard work, determination, and an unwavering belief in his dream, he became a doctor and eventually built the hospital we all know today. He believed that success was never about personal achievement alone, it was about serving others and leaving the world a little better than he found it.

What made him truly extraordinary wasn't just what he built, but the person he was. He always put others before himself, treating everyone with warmth, kindness, and genuine respect, regardless of who they were. He also believed that life should never become too serious. His sense of humor and ability to keep things light-hearted reminded everyone around him that laughter is one of life's greatest gifts.

Even after receiving the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Vibhushan - three of India's highest civilian honors, he



Dear Nana,

There are a few things I hope you know, even though I've never really said them.

I hope you know that you've been one of the quiet constants in my life. Not because we spent countless hours together as I was growing up, we didn't, but because you shaped me simply by the example you set. You've always been one of those people for me.

Growing up, I knew you as the legendary doctor everyone spoke about with admiration. It did not quite sink in till I got much older. As I got older, I began to understand what that admiration really meant. It wasn't just about your talent. Talent can take a person only so far. In the conversations we've had over the past few years you have already told me how your peers were much more talented than you. But you simply beat them by being more



remained humble, grounded, and remarkably simple. His greatest legacy isn't the awards or the hospital he built, but the values he lived by: perseverance, compassion, humility, and the belief that true success is measured by the lives you uplift.

Most importantly, I will tell them that everything our family has today, every opportunity we have, every value we hold, and every dream we're able to pursue, is because of him. His sacrifices, vision, and unwavering determination laid the foundation for all of us, and for that, we will always be grateful.

- Dr Aman Sancheti
Grandson

hardworking and the countless hours you spent perfecting your craft. That lesson has always stuck with me, and I try to replicate that in everything I do thanks to you.

I've often wondered what it takes to dedicate an entire lifetime to something bigger than yourself. To keep learning when you've already mastered your field. To keep caring when you've already helped thousands. To never stop demanding excellence from yourself. I think that's what has inspired me most. Not your fame. Not the awards. Not even the incredible career. But the way you lived humbly.

There is something else I hope you know, even though I've never really said them out loud. I hope you know that your legacy isn't only measured by the lives you saved. It's measured by the people you've quietly inspired without ever intending to. And I'm one of them.

Ninety years!!! What an incredible privilege it is for all of us to celebrate a life so full of purpose. A life spent healing others. A life that has left the world kinder, healthier, and better than you found it.

I only wish I'd told you these things sooner.

Thank you, not just for everything you've done, but for everything you've unknowingly taught me. I'm incredibly proud to be your grandson. More than that, I'm grateful.

Happy 90th Birthday, Nana With all my love, admiration, and respect.

- Neil Sanghavi
Grandson

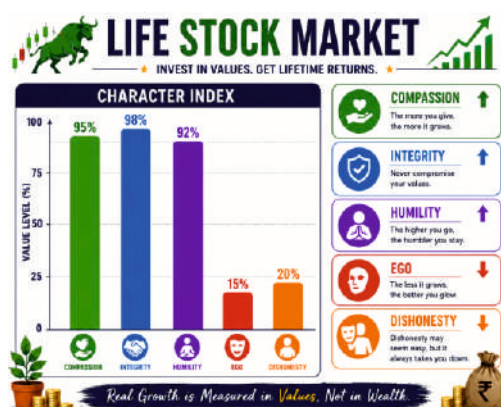
Growing up with Nana, because of the way we have seen him, and the stories we've heard, none of us have taken what he has given us for granted. I think, in fact it has pushed me to always work harder like him, even when I don't really need to. Seeing everything he has built, has pushed me and made it almost normal that you never stop trying and always work as hard as you can to achieve your goals. I feel like he has shown us all the importance of what it is to work toward what you want and the importance of hard work.

- Vivan Bhargava
Grandson



Dear Nana, Growing up, I don't think you ever realized how much you were teaching me without saying a word. People know you for your remarkable achievements, but what has always amazed me most is that none of them have ever changed who you really are. Watching you build everything through hard work, determination, and perseverance taught me that success is earned, never given. But more importantly, you showed me that true greatness isn't measured by titles or accomplishments - it's measured by kindness, humility, and the way you treat every person with respect. Despite everything you have achieved, you have remained the most grounded, genuine, and compassionate person I know. That is the lesson I will carry with me for the rest of my life. As I begin making my own mark in the world, those lessons will always stay with me. Four years ago, I would never have imagined myself pursuing a career in medtech. But over the past year, while working on my knee tensioner project and learning more about your own journey and how you didn't just practice orthopaedics, but constantly innovated and even developed implants to improve patient care, I found myself inspired in ways I never expected. You showed me that medicine and innovation go hand in hand, and you sparked a passion in me for creating solutions that can make a real difference in people's lives. Thank you for instilling that excitement in me for years and years, even though neither of us realized it was happening. It is a gift I will carry with me throughout my own journey. Happy happy 90th Birthday, Nana. I hope to make you as proud as you have always made all of us. Love you lots, Kyra

- Kyra Gore
Granddaughter



The Conversation I Wish We Have Before You're 100

When I think about the conversations

I hope we have over the next ten years, I don't just want to hear stories about the past. I want to understand the way you think and how you've become the person you are today.

The biggest lesson I've learnt from you is to never stop learning. No matter your age or what life has thrown at you, you've always stayed curious, open-minded, and ready to grow. Even at 90, you're still learning something new, going to the hospital almost everyday and I hope I carry that same mindset with me for the rest of my life. I want to ask you how do you still have the drive to keep going?



I also want to understand how you developed such a practical and analytical way of thinking. Whenever there's a problem, you somehow make it seem simple. I want to know how you make decisions, how you stay calm under pressure, and how you always seem to find a solution while keeping everyone else's best interests in mind.

One day, if I have the opportunity to become a part of Sancheti Hospital, I hope you'll tell me everything that went into building it. Not just the successes, but the difficult decisions, the failures, the risks you took, and the lessons you learned. I want to know how a small clinic became a hospital that has touched the lives of people across India and beyond, and how I can help carry that vision forward while building my own path.

I also have to ask you one very important question: how do you stay so humble? You've achieved so much, yet you've never made anyone around you feel small. That's something I admire more than any award or achievement.

And of course, no conversation with you is complete without a joke. Somehow, no matter what we're talking about, you always manage to slip one in. You make every conversation lighter, every family gathering more fun, and every serious moment just a little less serious. I think that's one of your greatest talents that is you make people feel comfortable, smile without trying, and enjoy simply sitting and talking with you.

Most importantly, I want to have one conversation that probably won't even need many words. I just want to tell you how much I love you. So much of who I am today is because of you. Your values, your guidance, your example, and the life you've built for all of us. Your legacy isn't just Sancheti Hospital. It's the family you've shaped, the lives you've touched, and the way you've inspired me to dream bigger while staying grounded.

These are the conversations I hope we keep having and not just before you're 100, but for as long as I'm lucky enough to sit beside you, listen to your stories, laugh at your jokes, and keep learning from you.

- Anaya Sancheti
Granddaughter



पद्मश्री, पद्मभूषण एवं पद्मविभूषण से अलंकृत लोकप्रिय डॉ. के. एच. संचेती सर को ९०वें जन्मदिवस पर हार्दिक एवं आत्मीय शुभकामनाएँ

आदरणीय सर,

आपको आपके ९०वें जन्मदिवस पर हृदय से हार्दिक बधाई एवं अनंत शुभकामनाएँ।

सर, आपने अपने जीवन में बिंदु से सागर का निर्माण किया है। अपने माता-पिता से प्राप्त श्रेष्ठ संस्कारों और मानवता के उच्च मूल्यों को अपनाकर आपने अपने जीवन को महान बनाया है। आपकी जीवन-यात्रा अनेक उतार-चढ़ावों, संघर्षों और चुनौतियों से होकर गुजरी है, परंतु आपके कदम कभी डगमगाए नहीं। आप कभी हताश या निराश नहीं हुए, बल्कि हिमालय की भौंति हर कठिन परिस्थिति में अडिग और अचल खड़े रहे। यही आपके व्यक्तित्व की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता और आपकी सफलता का रहस्य है।

सर, बड़ी-बड़ी डिग्रियाँ प्राप्त कर डॉक्टर बन जाना एक उपलब्धि है, लेकिन अपने सेवा-भाव, करुणा और मानवता से रोगियों के हृदय में स्थायी स्थान बनाना ही एक सच्चे चिकित्सक की पहचान है। रोगियों में आत्मविश्वास जगाना, उन्हें धैर्य देना, अपनापन महसूस कराना और उनके चेहरे पर मुस्कान लौटाना ही डॉक्टर के जीवन की वास्तविक सफलता और सार्थकता है।

सर, आपने अपने संपूर्ण जीवन में यही आदर्श स्थापित किया है। अपनी दिव्य मुस्कान, सरल एवं सहज स्वभाव, प्रेरणादायी प्रसंगों और मधुर हास्य-विनोद से आपने लाखों मरीजों के मन को जीता है। संचेती हॉस्पिटल आपके समर्पण, सेवा, दूरदृष्टि और उत्कृष्ट कार्य का जीवंत प्रतीक है।

सर, समय का प्रभाव किसी को नहीं छोड़ता, लेकिन आपने अपने निष्काम सेवा-कार्य और मानवीय व्यवहार से जो प्रेम, सम्मान और विश्वास लोगों के हृदय में अर्जित किया है, वह वास्तव में अलौकिक है। आपकी सेवाओं के सम्मानस्वरूप भारत सरकार ने आपको पद्मश्री, पद्मभूषण एवं पद्मविभूषण जैसे देश के सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मानों से अलंकृत किया है। यह केवल आपका ही नहीं, बल्कि संपूर्ण महाराष्ट्र समाज के लिए भी अत्यंत गौरव का विषय है।

सर, आपकी इस प्रेरणादायी यात्रा में आपकी धर्मपत्नी सौ. लीला (अनुराधा) संचेती जी का अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण योगदान रहा है। उनके समर्पण, त्याग, स्नेह और सतत सहयोग से आप अपने प्रत्येक कार्य में सफलता प्राप्त करते रहे।

आज आपके सुपुत्र डॉ. पराग संचेती आपके द्वारा लगाए गए संचेती हॉस्पिटल रूपी विशाल वटवृक्ष की पूरी निष्ठा, समर्पण और कुशलता से देखभाल कर रहे हैं तथा उसे नई ऊँचाइयों तक पहुँचाने का सफल प्रयास कर रहे हैं। आज संचेती हॉस्पिटल केवल पुणे ही नहीं, बल्कि पूरे देश के लिए गौरव का विषय बन चुका है।

सर, मेरे स्वर्गीय पति शाहू मोडक जी के निधन के पश्चात आपने मुझे एक बड़े भाई के समान स्नेह, सहारा और संबल दिया। आपके तथा सौ. लीला जी के स्नेहपूर्ण सहयोग का ऋण मैं जीवनभर नहीं चुका सकूँगी। आपके प्रति अपनी कृतज्ञता व्यक्त करने के लिए 'धन्यवाद' शब्द भी बहुत छोटा प्रतीत होता है।

परमपिता परमेश्वर से मेरी विनम्र प्रार्थना है कि आप सदैव स्वस्थ, प्रसन्न, ऊर्जावान एवं दीर्घायु रहें। आपका स्नेह, मार्गदर्शन और आशीर्वाद हम सभी को सदैव मिलता रहे यही हमारी हार्दिक भावना है।

कितनी वैशाखियाँ, कितनी बरसातें,
कितनी देखीं अमावस, पूनम की रातें।

तब आया यह जन्मदिन न्यारा,
स्वीकार करें हमारा स्नेहिल अभिनंदन सारा।

आपको जन्मदिवस की पुनः हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ,
सादर प्रणाम एवं आत्मीय वंदन।

स्नेहांकित,
प्रतिभा शाहू मोडक



*“A family that grows together,
stands together,
and celebrates every moment
together”*

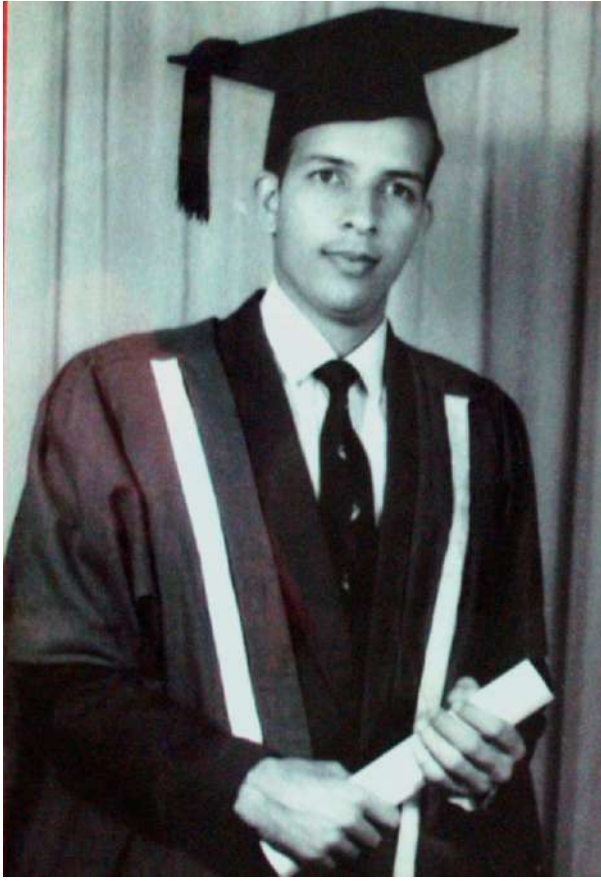
In Memoriam

Madan Kaka was one of the strongest pillars in Dr. Sancheti's life. His unwavering support, quiet strength, and selfless dedication played an invaluable role in Dr. Sancheti's journey and the growth of the Sancheti family.

His contributions were truly priceless - not just in what he did, but in the values he lived by. He stood by the family through every milestone and challenge with humility, loyalty, and grace.

His legacy will continue to inspire us, and he will always be remembered with immense gratitude, respect, and affection.





First Hospital Building



First Consulting Room



First Operation Theatre





Padmshree Award



Padmabhushan



Padmavibhushan Award



Indus Implant Launch



B C Roy Award



sancheti



वाढदिवसाच्या मनःपूर्वक शुभेच्छा, KHS सर! Dr. K. H. Sancheti, fondly known as KHS Sir, is a guiding light, a father's grace.

मी कदाचित तुमचा सर्वात तरुण 'लाडका' (किंवा कमी काळात तुमचा लाडका झालेला) सहकारी असेन. माझे इतर सहकारी आणि मनीषा मॅडमही मला 'KHS सरांचा लाडका' म्हणून चिडवत असतात. मागच्या वाढदिवसाच्या पार्टीत अकाउंट्स टीमसोबत फोटो काढताना पुन्हा तीच गंमत सुरु होती. तेव्हा मी हसत सरांना विचारलं, 'आहेच मी तुमचा लाडका: हो की नाही सर?' सरांनी अनुराधा मॅडमकडे पाहत क्षणाचाही विलंब न लावता उत्तर दिलं, 'हो: पण याचा नंबर दुसरा आहे; पहिला अजूनही हिचाच आहे!' आणि सगळे मनापासून हसलो. सरांचा सेन्स ऑफ ह्युमर, हजरजबाबीपणा आणि सहजपणा प्रत्येकाला आपलंसं करून टाकतो.

सरांशी माझी पहिली भेट साधारण वीस वर्षांपूर्वी झाली. त्या वेळी मी विद्यार्थी होतो. माझा जिवलग मित्र संदीप देशमुख गुडघ्याच्या तीव्र वेदनांनी त्रस्त होता. इतका की हॉस्टेलमधून कॉलेज किंवा लायब्ररीत जाणं सुद्धा त्याला कठीण झालं होतं. त्या काळात इंटरनेट नुकतंच सर्वसामान्यांच्या हातात येत होतं. इंटरनेट कॅफेमध्ये जाऊन त्याने स्वतःच आपल्या लक्षांनाच शोध घेतला आणि स्वतःच 'मला आर्थायटिस झाला आहे; आता मी कधीच पूर्वीसारखा होणार नाही' असा निष्कर्ष काढला.

त्या चुकीच्या समजुतीने तो शारीरिक वेदनांपेक्षा मानसिकदृष्ट्या अधिक खचला होता. निराशा, भीती आणि असहाय्यता त्याच्या चेहऱ्यावर स्पष्ट दिसत होती. मित्र म्हणून त्याला धीर देण्यापलीकडे माझ्याकडे काहीच नव्हतं. शेवटी आम्ही KHS सरांकडे आलो.

तळमजल्यावरील गुडघ्याच्या OPD मध्ये आम्ही बसलो होतो. सहाय्यकांनी तपासणी करून ठेवली होती. आमच्या मनात वेगळाच ताण होता एवढ्या मोठ्या डॉक्टरांशी बोलायचं कसं? आपल्या सगळ्या शंका त्यांच्यापर्यंत पोहोचतील का?

सर आले. त्यांनी तपासणी केली, काही प्रश्न विचारले, सहाय्यकांना सूचना दिल्या आणि पुढच्या रुग्णाकडे गेले. पण संदीपच्या मनातील भीती तशीच होती. त्याला वाटत होतं, 'सरांनी आर्थायटिसबद्दल काहीच सांगितलं नाही: म्हणजे खरंच मला तो आजार असेल का?'

त्याची मनःस्थिती माझ्या लक्षात आली. मी धाडस करून सरांना बाहेर गाठलं आणि नम्रपणे म्हणालो, 'सर, त्याचं समाधान झालेलं नाही. शक्य असेल तर पाच मिनिटं पुन्हा द्याल का?'

आजही त्या क्षणाचं मला अप्रूप वाटतं. एवढ्या व्यस्त वेळापत्रकातही सरांनी आम्हाला दुसऱ्या केबिनमध्ये बसायला सांगितलं. काही वेळाने ते स्वतः आले. त्यांनी संदीपचं पूर्ण बोलणं शांतपणे ऐकलं. त्याच्या मनातली भीती समजून घेतली. आणि मग ठाम आवाजात म्हणाले माझ्यावर विश्वास ठेव. औषधं व्यवस्थित घे, व्यायाम कर. महिन्याभरात फरक पडला नाही तर तुझ्या आर्थायटिसचा उपचार मी फुकट करीन.'

त्या एका वाक्यातील आत्मविश्वास, अधिकार वाणी आणि माणुसकीच्या स्पर्शानी संदीपचं अर्धं दुखणं तिथल्यातिथे कमी केलं. औषधांइतकाच त्या शब्दांनी त्याच्यावर परिणाम केला. काही आठवड्यांत तो पूर्णपणे सावरला.

अलीकडेच मी हा प्रसंग सरांना आठवण करून दिला. इतक्या वर्षांनंतरही त्यांनी प्रेमाने विचारलं, 'संदीप आता काय करतो?' त्याने आयुष्यात यशाची शिखरं

गाठल्याचं ऐकून सर मनापासून आनंदी झाले आणि म्हणाले, 'त्याला माझे खूप आशीर्वाद सांग.'

त्या क्षणी माझ्या मनात एकच विचार आला, सरांनी अशा लाखो रुग्णांना नवजीवन दिलं असेल, कित्येक कुटुंबांना आशा दिली असेल. पण एवढ्या वर्षांनंतरही एका रुग्णाची आठवण ठेवून त्याच्याविषयी इतकी आत्मीयता दाखवणं, हेच त्यांच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचं खरं वैभव आहे. डॉक्टर म्हणून त्यांचं कौशल्य जितकं महान आहे, तितकंच माणूस म्हणून त्यांचं मोठेपणही विलक्षण आहे.

तेव्हा मला कल्पनाही नव्हती की भविष्यात अशा असामान्य व्यक्तिमत्त्वासोबत काम करण्याची संधी मिळेल.

CA म्हणून सुरुवातीला सरांनी अगदी साध्या प्रश्नांमधून माझी परीक्षा घेतली. पण हळूहळू त्यांचा विश्वास संपादन करता आला आणि ते माझ्यासाठी केवळ वरिष्ठ राहिले नाहीत, तर Friend, Philosopher and Guide झाले. चिटणीस सरांचे, शहा सरांचे किंसे त्यांनी सांगितले.

एका महत्त्वाच्या कामात आम्ही जवळपास विविध पर्याय तपासत होतो. सुवर्णमध्य काही सापडत नव्हता. त्या प्रक्रियेत सरांनी माझं वैयक्तिक मतही विचारलं. माझी प्रत्येक भूमिका त्यांना मान्य नव्हती, तरीही ती निर्भयपणे मांडल्याबद्दल त्यांनी माझं कौतुक केलं. काही दिवसांनी ते काम सरांच्या अपेक्षेप्रमाणे पूर्ण झालं आणि तेही खूप आनंदी होते.

मी गंमतीने म्हटलं, 'सर, आता पार्टी झाली पाहिजे.' सर लगेच म्हणाले, 'नक्की: तू ड्रिंक घेतोस ना?' आयुष्यात पहिल्यांदाच आणि बहुतेक शेवटच्यांदाच मला ड्रिंक न करण्याचं वाईट वाटलं!

काही दिवसांनी सरांनी मला बंगल्यावर बोलावलं. गप्पा, खाऊन झाल्यावर त्यांनी मला एक भेटवस्तू द्यायला घेतली. मी नम्रपणे नकार देत म्हणालो, 'सर, त्याऐवजी एक कविता म्हणू का?' आणि कुसुमाग्रजांची 'कणा' कविता सादर केली.

'पैसे नको सर, जरा एकटेपणा वाटला; मोडून पडला संसार, तरी मोडला नाही कणा; पाठीवरती हात ठेवून फक्त 'लढ' म्हणा:'

कविता संपल्यावर सरांनी मला मिठी मारली आणि म्हणाले, 'माझा हात सदैव तुझ्या पाठीशी आहे.' तो क्षण माझ्यासाठी कोणत्याही पुरस्कारापेक्षा मोठा होता. त्यानंतर त्यांनी मनापासून आशीर्वाद देत सांगितलं, 'खूप मोठा हो. खूप अभ्यास कर. तू माझ्यासाठी काम करतोस म्हणून नाही, तर मनापासून असं वाटतं.' हे शब्द आजही माझ्यासाठी प्रेरणेचं बळ आहेत.

२०२३ मध्ये माझ्या भावाच्या अपघाताच्या वेळी पराग सर आणि मनीषा मॅडम यांनी खूप आधार दिलाच; पण कुठूनतरी बातमी कळताच KHS सरांनी स्वतः फोन करून विचारपूस केली. ते म्हणाले, 'कसलीही गरज लागली तर मला सांग.' त्या काही शब्दांनीच मोठा मानसिक आधार मिळाला.

नंतर भावाला घेऊन त्यांना भेटायला गेलो. ओळख करून देताना मी म्हटलं, 'हा आमच्या भावंडांमध्ये सर्वात मोठा. हा शिकला म्हणून आम्ही बाकीचेही शिकलो आणि डॉक्टर, शिक्षक, CA झालो.' सर लगेच म्हणाले, 'How kind of you!' आणि पुढे हसत म्हणाले, 'दुसरा कुणी असता तर म्हणाला असता, मी मेहनत केली म्हणून CA झालो.' प्रत्येक गोष्टीत सकारात्मक बाजू शोधण्याची त्यांची वृत्ती पुन्हा एकदा अनुभवायला मिळाली.

सर, तुमच्याकडे पाहून आणि तुमच्यासोबत काम करून रोज काहीतरी विधायक करण्याची प्रेरणा मिळते. तुमची विद्वत्ता, माणुसकी, संवेदनशीलता, विनोदबुद्धी आणि प्रत्येक व्यक्तीवर मनापासून प्रेम करण्याची वृत्ती आम्हा सर्वांसाठी प्रेरणास्थान आहे.

पुन्हा एकदा वाढदिवसाच्या मनःपूर्वक शुभेच्छा!

सर, आपण शतायुषी व्हा, आम्हा सर्वांना असंच प्रेम, मार्गदर्शन आणि आशीर्वाद देत राहा, हीच ईश्वरचरणी प्रार्थना.

- अनमोल शिंदे

CA, Sancheti Hospital



Dr. Sancheti has been my mentor for 34 years. From my early days as an 'immature nurse,' you transformed me into a multifaceted leader. You taught me the art of perfection in surgery, the management of the operating theater, CSSD, implants, staff, and beyond.

You placed your trust in me by assigning roles in various departments, including purchasing and the manufacturing unit. Your unwavering confidence allowed me to take charge of every aspect of hospital stewardship. You believed in my potential before I even saw it in myself.

You taught me the value of kindness over harshness, respect for every role, and unbiased appreciation. Your lessons resonate in my life: trust, patience, and attention to detail. I am grateful for the way you shaped me and for believing in me. Your legacy lives on in the hearts of those you have touched.

Beyond surgeries and hospitals, you have sculpted my character. You instilled enduring truths:

- "Never give up in times of trouble, give your best and expect nothing in return."

- "Trust yourself and trust in God, life will transform."

- "Live with self-respect."

These words helped dismantle my fears, of poverty, isolation, disrespect, and even mortality. Today, I stand strong in the face of life's storms. Your lessons serve as my armour: resilience, faith, and dignity. In

He worked tirelessly every day and never shied away from any responsibility.

He is one of the finest individuals anyone could have the privilege of working with. He was always clear in his instructions and placed utmost importance on hard work, dedication, and honesty. These values have shaped him into a truly successful person.

I have had the honor of being associated with him for over four decades. During this time, I have seen him embody the highest ideals of academic and institutional leadership. Under his visionary guidance, the Sancheti Institute for Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation has grown to become one of India's most trusted centers for healthcare and medical education.

He believed in three principles above all, no criticism without reason, no pointless arguments, and no lies.

His lifelong contribution to the medical field is remarkable and inspiring.

I wish him a very healthy and happy birthday, and pray for many more years of good health and service.

- Nalini Kumar

PA to Dr. K. H. Sancheti



every challenge I face, I hear your encouraging voice: "Give your best. Trust. Respect yourself." You have gifted me with fearlessness.

I am deeply grateful to you, sir. Your legacy is my strength.

With reverence and Eternal respect,

- Nirmala Kamat

Senior Manager, Sancheti Hospital





My Association with KHS Sir began in 1982 when I started working with him as a Junior Consultant at the Sancheti Institute.

He was a superbly fast and dextrous Surgeon, and it was a pleasure to work with and learn from him.

He was always courteous, helpful and compassionate with all his patients. While he was strict and demanding with his colleagues and staff, he had a gift of communicating his expectations, without any offense. He was always generous with praise, when it was warranted.

He always led by example (e.g. he would never use the lift!) and had an extraordinary capacity for hard work. He was an outstanding teacher and took personal interest in every student, and kept helping and advising his students and colleagues, even after they had left the Institute.

Many happy Returns to KHS sir on turning 90! May he live a thousand years!

- Dr Madhav Borate
Friend

डॉ. के.एच. संचेती संपूर्ण जगासाठी प्रसिद्ध ऑर्थोपेडिक सर्जन . पण माझ्यासाठी तर पप्पांच . मनिषाची मी शाळेपासूनची मैत्रिण. पण मला मैत्रिणीपेक्षा कुटुंबातलीच मानलं गेलं . पु.ल देशपांडे एकदा पप्पांकडे आले होते तेव्हा सुद्धा पप्पांनी 'ही आमची अंजू , अशीच ओळख करून दिली . एवढं साधेपण आपलेपण त्यांच्या आणि मम्मीच्या वागण्यात आहे की सगळ्या मुलांचे नातवंडांचे पायपण जमिनी वरच आहेत. हे पप्पा मम्मीचं वळण आहे . त्यांचं मोठेपण सांगायला मी फारच छोटी आहे . पण जेव्हा पप्पा मला ' 'अंजू तुझं वक्तुने किया ऐकव ' असं सांगतात . तेव्हा माझ्यासाठी तो सर्वोच्च पुरस्कार असतो . पप्पा मम्मी तुम्ही असेच फ्रेश आणि आनंदात राहा .माझ्या लाखलाख शुभेच्छा.

- अंजली पाटील
कौटुंबिक मित्र



सुदिनं सुदिनं जन्म दिनं जीवत शरदः शतम शतम सुदिनं सुदिनं जन्म दिनं भवतु मंगलं जन्म दिनं विजयी भव

आम्ही पोलीओच्या कॅम्पसाठी पुण्याच्या बाहेर जायचो. त्यावेळी सर प्रत्येकाकडे बारकाईने लक्ष देत असंत. मला आजही तो दिवस आठवतो जेव्हा आम्ही फलटण वरून येताना दिवे घाटात गाडी आल्यावर सर म्हणाले 'नारायण जरा थांब' आम्ही खाली उतरलो. सर म्हणाले दोन दगड घे. एक सरांनी घेतला एक मी. सर मला बोलले, 'आता एक दगड खाली दरीत फेक'. मग मी तो दगड खाली फेकला. नंतर सरांनी फेकला. माझ्याकडे बघत सर म्हणाले, माझा दगड तुझ्या दगडापेक्षा पुढे गेला. मी म्हणालो 'सर हे आपण का केले?' त्यावेळेस सर म्हणाले 'तुला झोप येत होती. आता येते का?' सांगायचे तात्पर्य एवढेच की इतके बारीक लक्ष ठेवत, आपल्यावर न रागावता शांतपणे सरांनी समजावून सांगितले.

सरांना बाहेर कोठेही जावयाचे असेल, तर सर विचारायचे, 'नारायण तुला काही काम आहे का?' मी 'नाही' म्हणून सांगितले की सर विचारायचे 'मग माझ्याबरोबर येतोस का?' खरतर सर हक्काने व अधिकाराने मला सांगू शकत होते, की आधी माझ्या

सोबत ये मग तुझं काम कर. पण सरांचा स्वभाव मुळातच वेगळा असल्याने यातून त्यांचा कामगारांच्या प्रति आदरभाव दिसून येतो.

सरांसोबतच्या प्रवासात आणखीन एक नाव घ्यावेसे वाटते. ते म्हणजे सौ.अनुराधा संचेती म्हणजे आमच्या लाडक्या भाभीजी.

सरांच्या सोबत कायम खंबीरपणे उभ्या राहणाऱ्या भाभीजीने पण खूप प्रेम केलं माझ्यासारख्या कामगारावर. मला घरातील सदस्यासारखे वागवले. १९७४ ते २०२६ या माझ्या प्रवासात सरांनी, भाभीजीनी, मनीषा ताईनी, पराग सरांनी, रूपा ताई , सोनाताई या सर्वांनी सुद्धा मला कधीही कामगार म्हणून वागणूक दिली नाही.

पद्मश्री पद्मभूषण पद्मविभूषण असे कित्येक गौरव मिळवलेल्या महान व्यक्ती सोबत मला काम करायला मिळाले हे मी माझे भाग्य समजतो. आपल्या कष्टला समाज नतमस्तक आहे. ज्ञान, करुणा आणि शिस्त ही सरांची ओळख आहे. आपल्या वाटेवर अनेकांची आशा उभी आहे. असे उमदे व्यक्तिमत्व शतायुषी होवो.

- श्री. नारायण डुरेपाटील
ड्राइव्हर



खूप दिवसांपूर्वीची गोष्ट

एकदा एका फंक्शनमध्ये मी पपांबरोबर बोलत उभा होतो . पुण्यातील एक प्रसिद्ध महिला डॉक्टर , ज्या पपांच्या खूप नंतरच्या पिढीतल्या होत्या , त्या पपांशी खूप गप्पा मारून गेल्या , आणि पपांनी मला हळूच विचारलं , कोण होत्या रे त्या ?

मी चाट पडलो आणि पप्पांना विचारलं , की तुम्ही त्यांना ओळखलं नाही तरी इतक्या वेळ कसे बोललात ? तर पप्पा मला हसून सांगतात साधारण पंधरा मिनिटं मी कोणाशीही न ओळखता पण बोलू शकतो , आणि त्यांना पत्ता न लागू देता !

असे आमचे पप्पा .

ते इतके गोड हसून समोरच्याला विचारतात ' कसे आहात तुम्ही ?' की त्याला खात्रीच पडते की डॉक्टर साहेबांनी आपल्याला नक्कीच ओळखलंय.

पप्पांचा आवडता विनोद .

एकदा एक बाई आपल्या सुनेला घेऊन हॉस्पिटलला आली. चेकिंगच्या वेळेला सुनेला बुरखा काढायला सांगितला . सुनेने डायरेक्ट नकार दिला .पप्पांना प्रश्न पडला की तपासायच कस ?

सासू ला प्रॉब्लेम लक्षात आला आणि ती सुनेला समजवायला पुढे सरसावली . ती म्हणाली,' आरे पगली, शर्माती क्यूं है ? ये मर्द थोडेही है ? ये तो डॉक्टर है '

- राजन साळवे
कौटुंबिक मित्र

“त्यांचा साधेपणा आम्हाला आयुष्यभराचा धडा देतो”

संचेती हॉस्पिटलच्या उद्घाटन सोहळ्याची तयारी जोरात सुरू होती. त्या कार्यक्रमासाठी तत्कालीन राष्ट्रपती श्रीमती प्रतिभा पाटील येणार होत्या. त्यामुळे सुरक्षा व्यवस्था अतिशय कडक होती. पोलीस पथक आणि बॉम्ब शोधक श्वान पथकाने संपूर्ण परिसराची तपासणी केली. तपासणीदरम्यान प्रवेशद्वाराच्या दोन्ही बाजूंना सजावटीसाठी ठेवलेल्या फुलांच्या कुंड्या पूर्णपणे विस्कटल्या गेल्या.

त्या वेळी आम्ही सर्वजण नीटनेटका गणवेश घालून उभे होतो. पुन्हा त्या कुंड्या लावायच्या होत्या, पण कोणीही पुढे येत नव्हते. कदाचित संकोच होता, कदाचित 'हे काम आपण का करायचे?' अशी भावना मनात होती.

तेवढ्यात डॉ. कांतीलाल संचेती सर शांतपणे पुढे आले. त्यांनी कोणालाही काही न सांगता स्वतः एक कुंडी उचलली आणि ती योग्य जागी ठेवली.

तो क्षण आजही माझ्या डोळ्यांसमोर तसाच उभा आहे. सरांनी एकही शब्द बोलला नाही, पण त्यांच्या त्या कृतीने आम्हा सर्वांना मोठा संदेश दिला. आम्ही लगेच आपला संकोच आणि अहंकार बाजूला ठेवला, खाली वाकलो आणि सर्व कुंड्या पुन्हा व्यवस्थित लावल्या.

त्या दिवशी मला समजले की, खरे मोठेपण पदात नसते, तर कृतीत आणि साधेपणात असते. डॉ. कांतीलाल संचेती यांच्याकडून आम्हाला मिळालेला हा नेतृत्वाचा धडा आयुष्यभर विसरणार नाही.

- संतोष चव्हाण

Project Manager, Sancheti Hospital



माननीय पद्मविभूषण डॉ. के. एच. संचेती सरांना वाढदिवसाच्या शुभेच्छा.

गेली पंचेचाळीस वर्षे मी सरांकडे काम करत होतो. आता सेवानिवृत्त आहे. सरांकडे काम करताना मला कायमच घरच्यासारखे वाटायचे.

सरांसोबतचा एक अनुभव आज मला इथे सांगावासा वाटतो. एकदा सरांना मुंबईला मुख्यमंत्र्यांना भेटायला जायचे होते. दुपारी १२ वाजता मीटिंग होती. त्या प्रमाणे मला वेळेची अगोदर कल्पना दिली होती. मी ठरल्याप्रमाणे सकाळी ७ वा. सरांच्या घरी पोहोचलो. सर म्हणाले आधी हॉस्पिटल मधे राऊंड घेऊ. म्हणून तिकडे गेलो. नंतर अजून एक मीटिंग आहे असं सर म्हणाले. ९:३० वाजले. मी सरांना आठवण करून दिली की आपल्याला निघायला लागेल. सर म्हणाले, १० मिनिटांत निघू. मी परत आठवण केली. सर १० वाजले आहेत. सर एकदम उठले व आम्ही निघालो.

सोबत खाण्यासाठी भाभीजींनी डबा दिला होता. सर वेळेचे पक्के होते. त्यातून एवढी महत्वाची मीटिंग. मी नेहमीप्रमाणे ८० च्या वेगाने एक्सप्रेस हायवेवर आलो. मग सरांनी वेग वाढवायला सांगितला. त्यानुसार मी आणखीन जोरात चालवायला लागलो. सरांचे लक्ष होते की मी सुरक्षित गाडी चालवत आहे ना.

बरोबर ११:४५ ला आम्ही शिक्षण मंत्रालयात पोहोचलो. तर मीटिंग सुरू व्हायची होती. वेळ आहे म्हणल्यानंतर सरांनी जेवण केले. नंतर ३० मिनिटांनी मीटिंग चालू झाली.

हा दिवस माझ्या जीवनातील अविस्मरणीय दिवस झाला.

- श्री. शिवाजी बारसकर
ड्राइव्हर



Lessons Dr. Sancheti Taught Us

Reference: Tuesdays with Daddy
- by Dr. Manisha Sanghavi

You Only Live Once But If You Do It Right, Once Is Enough.
November 10, 2021

Life : An Amusing little word

If you give it a thought life is a simple word to pronounce but the depth of its meaning is endless. Everyone's perception towards life is different.

Life is like a great big canvas and we are the ones who can add our own colour to it. Don't be afraid, don't hold back, throw your colours on this canvas and be amazed by what you see. Don't compare it to others. Remember it is yours and yours alone. Make it beautiful in your own way.

We have often heard people say life is what we make of it. Acknowledge that obstacles are a part of life but what you make of it will only reflect your perspective of life. It's a shade of colour that will add more meaning to the beautiful canvas of your life.

Life is complex yet simple at the same time. It is funny how people spend most of their time worrying that their life will end one day, these moments of worry are when life slips by.

So don't worry just embrace this gift of life, live it with all you got, learn from the suffering, earn joy by loving, savor every moment, treasure every memory. This is what life is meant to be.

However clichéd it may sound , but Dad taught me to believe, that you only live once , but if you do it right, once is enough!



**YOUR DESTINY IS FULFILLED
WHEN YOU INVEST IN THE
DESTINY OF OTHERS.**
OCTOBER 27, 2021

My father asked me, do you believe in destiny?

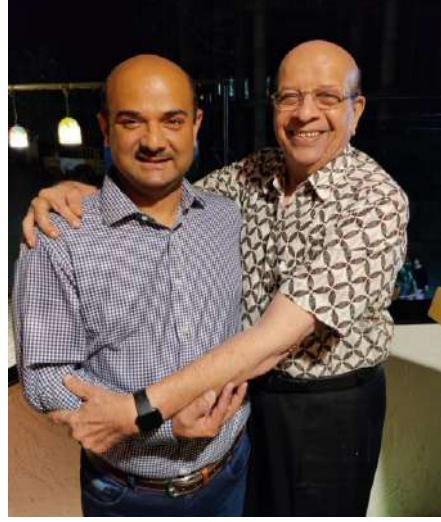
He said, when you invest your time and effort in others, in a way you are pouring your life into others. It's a way of giving one of the greatest gifts you can give. A part of you. Something so true. I wondered why we don't practice this more. Why do we hold grudges? And why do we resent or hate people. We shouldn't let hatred or anger occupy any space in our minds. We must learn to let go. The true meaning of life is to give back. What better way than giving a part of yourself to others?

Always know that the more you invest in someone the more content you are. Invest in others; give your time to someone, show compassion to those in need, go out of the way and lend a helping hand. It's a beautiful feeling.

'Investing in people is directly proportional to leading a beautiful meaningful life'.

I say, let us all go the investment way!

His Biggest Innovations



KHS: AN IMPECCABLE LEGEND!

Being associated with KHS Sir right since my school days gave me a unique opportunity to understand one constant aspect of his personality that makes him totally different from other orthopaedic surgeons that I came in contact with during my journey of three decades in orthopaedics.

That one singular trait in him was the continuous, untiring pursuit of excellence, perfection, and an innovative mindset. In his words, "You must ask yourself every day, 'How can I do something better tomorrow than what I did today on the operating table?'"

I feel this is the reason why he is always thinking of newer ways of treating various orthopaedic ailments, innovating newer approaches and newer implants that would benefit the masses, especially the economically deprived population of our country.

This assumes special significance in an era that was totally dominated by Western influence on orthopaedic practice in India. A few innovations that stand out among the many are the indigenously designed SMP (Sancheti Modular Hip Prosthesis) for hip replacements and the INDUS knee prosthesis for knee replacements.

In those days, joint replacements were few and far between and affordable only to the elite, as the implants were made in the USA and Europe.

The INDUS knee, in particular, stands out because it made knee replacement truly affordable to thousands of patients who were miserable with knee pain due to osteoarthritis, thanks to our habit of sitting cross-legged and squatting.

An affordable innovation for everyday suffering made many patients happily live their lives again, free from pain.

It took years of long-standing research, biomechanical tests, collaborations with industry, and an untiring zeal to come out with the final product. He even had a CNC machine installed in the hospital basement to experiment on the knee prosthesis and worked on it day and night to perfect the design.

It was immensely satisfying to see them smile again in the OPDs and come back only to touch his feet.

This was a game changer and actually started an era of Make in India, reducing the dependence on Western dominance. Rightfully so, he has been bestowed with the three highest Padma awards and also the Dr. B. C. Roy Award in Medicine, a feat that no other orthopaedic surgeon in this country has ever achieved.

I consider myself fortunate to have been mentored by him and to have learnt under his tutelage for a long time.

I pray to God for his long life and good health.

- Dr. Chetan Pradhan
Orthopaedic Consultant,
Sancheti Hospital

डॉ. संचेती यांच्यामुळे ऑर्थोपेडिक्समध्ये झालेला अमूलाग्र बदल (Before and After: How Orthopaedics Changed Because of Him)

डॉ. के. एच. संचेती यांनी १९६५ साली मुंबई येथे अस्थिरोग शल्यचिकित्सेचे (Orthopaedic Surgery) प्रशिक्षण पूर्ण केले. त्यांनी हे प्रशिक्षण मुंबईतील के. ई. एम. रुग्णालयात घेतले. त्यांचे गुरु डॉ. ए. के. तळवलकर, डॉ. एल. एन. वोरा आणि डॉ. एम. एन. शहाणे हे होते. या तिघांनीही मुंबई तसेच युनायटेड किंगडममध्ये प्रशिक्षण घेतले होते.

त्या काळात पुणे विद्यापीठात अस्थिरोग शल्यचिकित्सेचा अभ्यासक्रम उपलब्ध नव्हता. त्यामुळे डॉ. संचेती यांनी मुंबई विद्यापीठात जाऊन या वरिष्ठ शल्यविशारदांच्या मार्गदर्शनाखाली अस्थिरोगाचे प्रशिक्षण घेतले.

त्यांनी डी. ऑर्थो., एफ.सी.पी.एस. आणि एम.एस. (ऑर्थो.) या पदव्या प्राप्त केल्या. प्रशिक्षण पूर्ण करून आणि परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण झाल्यानंतर ते पुण्यात वैद्यकीय व्यवसायासाठी परतले.

त्या काळात शल्यचिकित्सेकांना सामान्य शल्यचिकित्सेचे प्रशिक्षण दिले जात असे. शरीरातील बहुतांश आजार, तसेच हाडे, सांधे आणि मणक्यांवरील आजारांवरही ते उपचार करत असत. हीच पद्धत युनायटेड किंगडममध्येही होती. एफ.आर.सी.एस. पदवीधारक शल्यचिकित्सक आपल्या आवडी आणि प्रशिक्षणानुसार पोट, छाती किंवा मणक्यांच्या शस्त्रक्रिया करत असत. साठच्या दशकाच्या मध्यात डॉ. संचेती यांना हाडे, सांधे आणि मणक्यांवरील आजारांवर विशेष प्रशिक्षण मिळाले होते. त्यामुळे पुण्यातील त्यांच्या शल्यचिकित्सा कार्याला एक वेगळीच दिशा मिळाली.

पुण्यात त्या काळी सामान्य शल्यचिकित्सकही हाडे आणि सांध्यांच्या रुग्णांवर उपचार करत असत. मात्र समाजाने अशा रुग्णांच्या उपचारासाठी डॉ. संचेती यांच्यावर अधिक विश्वास ठेवला. कालांतराने सामान्य शल्यचिकित्सकांनाही रुग्णांनी डॉ. संचेती यांच्याकडे उपचारासाठी जाणे आनंदाने मान्य झाले.

डॉ. संचेती यांनी त्यांच्या प्रशिक्षणाच्या काळात कोणतीही गोष्ट अपूर्ण ठेवली नाही. त्यांची पूर्ण निष्ठा, दृढनिश्चय आणि रुग्णांवर अत्यंत काळजीपूर्वक व योग्य वेळी उपचार करण्याची तळमळ यामुळेच रुग्णांना अधिक आराम मिळाला आणि उपचारांचे परिणामही अधिक चांगले झाले.

त्यांच्याकडे क्लिनिकल तपासणी, सूक्ष्म निरीक्षण आणि निर्णयक्षमता यांचे विलक्षण कौशल्य होते. Tissues अत्यंत नाजूकपणे हाताळण्याचे कौशल्य आणि शस्त्रक्रियेदरम्यान अनावश्यक हालचाली किंवा पुनरावृत्ती टाळण्याची सवय यामुळे त्यांच्या शस्त्रक्रिया कमी वेळात पूर्ण होत असत. त्या काळात भूलतंत्र (Anaesthesia) विकसित होत होते आणि विशेषतः वृद्ध रुग्णांसाठी शस्त्रक्रियेचा कमी कालावधी अत्यंत महत्वाचा होता. भूल आणि शस्त्रक्रियेचा कालावधी कमी असेल तर अशा रुग्णांचे परिणाम अधिक चांगले होत असत.

त्या काळात मी एम.एस. (जनरल सर्जरी) या अभ्यासक्रमात प्रवेश घेतला होता. जनरल सर्जरीचा कालावधी पूर्ण होताच, माझ्या स्वतःच्या आवडीने मी अस्थिरोग विभागात दाखल झालो.

१. ते रोजच्या कामाच्या वेळी त्वरित नोंदी (Notes) करून घेण्याचा आणि संध्याकाळी त्या व्यवस्थित (Fair) लिहून काढण्याचा खूप आग्रह धरत.

२. दुसऱ्या दिवशी ज्या रुग्णांवर शस्त्रक्रिया होणार असेल, त्या शस्त्रक्रियेची संपूर्ण प्रक्रिया आधीच वाचून ठेवण्यास ते सांगत.

३. दुपारच्या वेळी शस्त्रक्रियेनंतरच्या रुग्णांची काळजीपूर्वक पाहणी करून त्यांची स्थिती त्यांना कळविण्याची जबाबदारी देत.

४. शस्त्रक्रियेच्या वेळी जे काही निरीक्षण केले, जे शिकायला मिळाले, ते सर्व लिहून ठेवण्यास ते सांगत. हे सर्व एखाद्या विद्यार्थ्याने नियमितपणे केले, तर तो आपोआपच परीक्षेसाठी उत्तम प्रकारे तयार होत असे.

काही पदव्युत्तर विद्यार्थ्यांना अशी कडक शिस्त

आवडत नसेलही. परंतु हाच गुण त्यांना इतर शिक्षक आणि शल्यचिकित्सकांपेक्षा वेगळे ठरवत असे.

५. माझ्या सुरुवातीच्या काळात त्यांनी मला दुपारी झोप घेऊ नये, तसेच हळूहळू दुपारचे जेवण टाळावे, असा सल्ला दिला. त्यामुळे झोप येणार नाही आणि तो वेळ अभ्यासासाठी वापरता येईल, असे ते सांगत. मी अनुभवले की या सवयींमुळे माझ्या आयुष्यात मोठा बदल झाला. त्यांच्या स्वतःच्या आयुष्यातही या सवयींचा तसाच सकारात्मक परिणाम झाला होता.

६. 'सरावाने माणूस परिपूर्ण होतो' यावर त्यांचा ठाम विश्वास होता. त्यामुळे त्यांनी शक्य तितकी प्लास्टरची प्रकरणे स्वतः हाताळली आणि त्या कामात ते एक उत्कृष्ट कारागीर बनले. प्रशिक्षणादरम्यान काही सहकारी त्यांना त्यांचीही प्लास्टरची कामे करण्याची विनंती करत आणि डॉ. संचेती ती आनंदाने स्वीकारत. प्लास्टर करण्याची ही कला आणि शास्त्र त्यांनी के.ई.एम. रुग्णालयातील तंत्रज्ञ श्री. पटेल यांच्याकडून शिकले. पुढील आयुष्यातही त्यांनी श्री. पटेल यांचे स्मरण कृतज्ञतेने केले. पुण्यात ससून रुग्णालयातील अस्थिरोग बाह्यरुग्ण विभागात श्री. मोरे हेही अशाच प्रकारे कुशल तंत्रज्ञ होते.

सुडीच्या दिवशी मी ससून रुग्णालयातील माझे काम पूर्ण करून मोटवानी हॉस्पिटल किंवा टुबे पार्क येथील त्यांच्या ऑपरेशन थिएटरमध्ये जात असे. त्यानंतर ते मला त्यांच्या घरी घेऊन जात आणि त्यांच्या आई (आदरणीय बाईसाहेब) तसेच वहिनींनी बनवलेले जेवण खायला घालून पुन्हा मोटवानी किंवा टुबे पार्क येथे परत येत असू.

हा आमचा स्नेह इतका वाढला की १९७४ च्या सुमारास बाईसाहेब, सौ. जिजी नवलाखा, श्रीमती रत्नमाला कोपचर (पूर्वाश्रमीच्या नवलाखा) तसेच विवाहापूर्वीच्या सुरेखा धाडीवाल या चंद्रपूरजवळील एका जैन स्थानकाला जात असताना माझ्या वर्धा येथील घरीही आल्या होत्या.

आमचे हे कौटुंबिक संबंध पुढेही अधिक दृढ होत गेले. १९७६ च्या मध्यात डॉ. आणि सौ. संचेती सहा ते आठ आठवड्यांसाठी परदेशात गेले असताना, मी टुबे पार्क येथील त्यांच्या घरी बाईसाहेब आणि त्यांच्या सर्व मुलांसमवेत राहिलो. त्या काळात मी वहिनी आणि मोठ्या मुलांबरोबर सनातन हिंदू परंपरा व संस्कृती यांवरही चर्चा करत असे.

त्यांचे जीवनतत्त्वज्ञान असे होते - 'अपयश हा गुन्हा नाही; पण कमी ध्येय ठेवणे हा गुन्हा आहे.'

मी अनुभवले की त्यांच्या विद्यार्थ्यांनी आणि सहकाऱ्यांनी त्यांच्याकडून वेळेचे काटेकोर पालन, शिस्त, सहकाऱ्यांप्रती प्रामाणिकपणा, सातत्यपूर्ण कठोर परिश्रम आणि वैयक्तिक सुखसोयीचा त्याग हे गुण आत्मसात केले, तर ते आयुष्यात अधिक उंच ध्येय गाठू शकतात. डॉक्टरांना ९० व्या वाढदिवसाच्या खूप शुभेच्छा!

-डॉ. अजित दामले
अस्थिरोग तज्ञ



Exclusive at 90

Sharp in the Moment: Dr. K. H. Sancheti Speaks

A rare, candid conversation with the man who built a hospital, a discipline, and a legacy, in his own words.

Q: What would you tell your 25-year-old self?

I would tell him, don't wait until you have everything to begin. In 1965, I had ten beds, borrowed space at Motwani Hospital, and very little else. If I had waited for the ideal moment, for more money, more infrastructure, more certainty, I would still be waiting. I would tell that young surgeon: your stethoscope and your sincerity are enough to start. The rest, the buildings, the awards, the Indus knee, all of it, will follow the work, not the other way around.

I would also tell him to be patient with failure. Every surgery does not succeed the way you hope, especially in the early years when you are inventing your own methods because India did not yet have them. I would tell him: let the failures teach you, not frighten you.

Q: What still excites you?

After sixty years and training over two hundred surgeons, you might expect nothing to surprise me. But orthopaedics keeps moving, robotics, newer implants, newer techniques we could not have imagined when I was designing the Indus knee by hand. I still enjoy sitting quietly and listening to a young doctor explain something new to me. A patient walking out of this hospital who once could not walk in, that has never stopped exciting me. Not once, in sixty years.

Q: What is success?

People assume I will point to the Padma Vibhushan, or the hospital we built from ten beds into what it is today. But success, to me, was never the ceremony. It was the free polio and orthopaedic camps we began in 1974, still running, still reaching villages that would otherwise never see a specialist. Success is a farmer who could not afford treatment, walking again because we made sure the ability to pay was never the question we asked first.

If you want a single measure, I would say success is being needed by people who cannot repay you, and helping them anyway.

Q: What remains unfinished?

Everything, and I mean that honestly, not modestly. Medicine does not have a finish line. There are surgeons I have not yet trained, techniques we have not yet perfected, patients in parts of this country who still do not have access to the care that Pune now takes for granted. I built one physiotherapy college, one hospital management programme, but the need is larger than what any one institution, or one lifetime, can complete.

If I am honest, I also feel my work this next generation is unfinished, not because they need supervision, but because I still want to see how far they take it. A founder's job is never really to finish. It is to make sure the work continues without him. That is the part I think about most, now.



Friends forever - Shri. Divakar S. Chitnis



I have been associated with KHS Sir since 1987.

It was indeed an auspicious day when I walked into SIOR and was accepted as a resident in the M.S. programme at SIOR.

Dr. K. H. Sancheti (KHS) has been my guide and teacher since then.

A person with huge enthusiasm for teaching not only orthopaedics but also the nuances of leading a meaningful and fulfilling life, he has always been a person who leads by action rather than only by words.

He is a person with an unending quest for forging ahead in life, be it in his profession, lifestyle, social life, awareness, or spiritual

quest.

Leading life one step at a time, he encourages a person to keep going forward in any adverse situation or setback in life, to keep the goal in sight, and to achieve it.

He is someone who taught me that life is not to be taken easy once the goal is reached, but to be conscious of the many other goals that can be perceived during the attainment of the primary goal, to be mindful of them, and to work towards reaching them too.

He is the embodiment of the saying, "Action is the magic word in every success." To dream and have no action done by oneself is neither productive nor acceptable in one's way of life.

Success or failure—both teach and outline the steps to take and the path to walk for progress in life.

As KHS Sir reaches his 90th birthday, I wish him many more years to be there as a beacon of hope for me and many others like me, and to continue to inspire us by his benevolent presence.

- Dr. Rajeev Joshi
Orthopaedic Consultant,
Sancheti Hospital

A Journey of Healing and Gratitude:

During my time in Malaysia, I faced one of the most difficult chapters of my life. A chronic illness left me bedridden and fighting for survival in the ICU for several months. Though I eventually grew slightly better, I was still far from recovery. At that point, my husband decided to move me back to India, hoping that familiar surroundings would help my recovery & rehabilitation.

It was my sister who guided us toward Sancheti Hospital in Pune. Trusting her advice, I moved back to India and got admitted at Sancheti Hospital, and that decision changed everything. When I first met Dr. Sancheti, I was bedridden, fearful, and had lost all confidence in ever regaining my original strength. But he treated me not just as a patient, but as a family member. I still remember his statement, "I will make u fit to run very soon..". His compassion, encouragement, and unwavering belief in my recovery gave me the courage I had lost. Day after day, his motivation became my strength, and slowly, I began to heal,

physically and emotionally.

Alongside him, Dr. Parag Sancheti and the entire medical team at Sancheti worked tirelessly to restore my health. Their dedication, expertise, and constant support made me feel safe and cared for every step of the way. In addition, Mrs. Manisha Sanghvi, daughter of Dr. KH Sancheti, who was overseeing hospital operations, treated me like a dear friend. Her warmth, care, and personal attention brought comfort and companionship that lifted my spirits during the darkest days.

Thanks to Dr. KH Sancheti excellent treatment and compassionate guidance, I regained my health and confidence. Today, I look back on that journey with immense gratitude, knowing that without Dr. Sancheti's support, my recovery would not have been possible.

Rashmi Kumar
IPD patient of
Sancheti Hospital



A Tribute to Dr. KHS on His 90th Birthday Despite decades of friendship spanning countries, it took a stranger, Arunima Bannerjea, now a finance and risk professional with the Government of Sweden - to connect my mother to your father, Manisha. I remember it vividly. In 2006, I received a sharp call from Mumbai. Arunima had just met my mother, who complained of persistent knee pain. She reprimanded me: "What's the use of knowing the best orthopedic doctor in India and Asia if you can't help your own mother? You're a lousy daughter." Her own father had been diagnosed with cancer, and her world was shaken. My mother suffered ailments from 'head to toe,' as my father often said, and he had found 'good' doctors for nearly all of them. Yet even in Mumbai, he had failed to find relief for her knees. Arunima's visit changed everything. The following week, Manisha arranged the appointments, and Mom traveled to Pune. There she met the legendary Dr. KHS. For years afterward, she would say, "The moment I met Dr. KHS, I knew I was in safe hands. His smile was curative." She never suffered again. If my mother were alive today, she would have come to see him turn 90 and bless him in person. Best wishes, Dr. KHS. May you have a healthy and peaceful life ahead.

- Mrs. C. Singh
Patient from Mumbai, 2006

In 2010 when I had to have a life changing surgery in my femur, I remember it clear as day: I was ready in the morning and being taken to the OT where the senior doctors had decided that they would conduct the surgery, place a supporting metal on the bone and discharge me in a few days. What this meant was that I would have to return a few years later to remove the metal support on my femur which would need another surgery. Having known that I was a young football enthusiast who was on the cusp of playing at a good standard, I remember clearly when Dr. Sancheti, (or Nanaji as we called him with Neil when I visited their house), had a look at me right before the surgery was due and immediately recognised that I could do without the metal piece in my body. It took him barely a few seconds. It would just mean a slightly longer stay at the hospital. They didn't place it and I recovered in a few months. The fundamental trust in his doctors, in his deep knowledge, in me and the personal touch towards his patients. I immediately felt it all. I was 17 at the time, and from the age of 20-24 I proceeded to play professionally across continents, Brazil, India, Dubai for franchises and the National team for Futsal. Interestingly, that roughly would have been the time to have another surgery to remove the metal piece. But I didn't need to, I didn't have the metal piece inside me. Those seconds changed my body, my life and I can only imagine how many thousands more have had experiences like this. Thank you Nana, Dr. Sancheti for the impact in my life :)

- Yash Chugh
Patient



KHS – The Ultimate गुरु

Taking a letter in hand from my Dean, Dr. M. A. Phadke, to join Sancheti Hospital as an MS Orthopaedics resident in 1997, I was absolutely clueless, about where to go, whom to meet, and what lay ahead. I had never even met Dr KHS in person. My journey truly began when my very first posting turned out to be under Sir. I still recall those early mornings when his grand rounds would begin at 6:30 AM sharp and go on for two intense hours. To us residents, he was exceptionally strict—demanding



the best of our effort, discipline, and precision. Yet, to every single patient, he was unfailingly kind, gentle and—‘sweet’.

That rare combination left a deep mark on all of us. We developed “आदरयुक्त भीती”, a wall of reverence, for you. That feeling of respect for Sir, continues to this day. When I was in my second year of residency, I remember sitting in the operating theatre, feeling slightly low and anxious about my future. Sir noticed my face instantly, called me aside, and asked me what was wrong. I confided that many of my college colleagues at Sassoon General Hospital had already started operating DHS and Austin Moore cases independently, while I was not getting enough hands on training

and was nervous about how I would fare in life.

He smiled gently and said words that have stayed with me forever, “If by the end of your residency you understand when to operate, and when not to operate a patient, that will be your biggest teaching from me in life, and your greatest gift to your patient’s life always.” Till today, that teaching resonates within me. I follow this mantra, and it has given me the most satisfying outcomes and treatments for my patients.

Another invaluable lesson he gave me was, whenever in doubt about a treatment decision, he said, “Stand in front of the X ray and imagine that the name on that film is your mother or your father. Then ask yourself, what would you have done? What is the correct option for them?”

That one question solves the dilemma, more quickly, more efficiently, and more ethically than any algorithm ever could. I have learnt countless surgeries from him, lessons that are beyond measure. But one moment I can never forget is my very first pelvi-acetabular independent surgery, where I was privileged to have him, Sir, as my ASSISTANT!

And in the next surgery, he simply said, “You go and operate on your patient. I will be here outside the OT, ready to scrub in if you need me.” That is how great a man he is, guiding with firmness, teaching with love, and trusting his students with generosity.

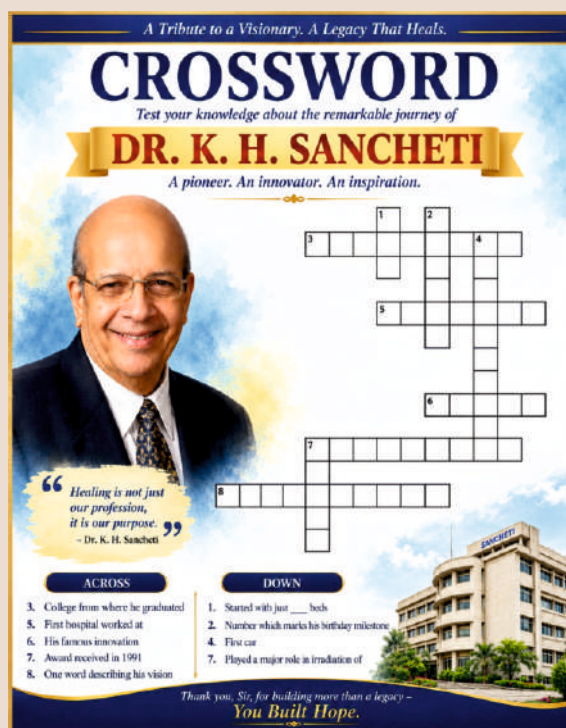
I remain deeply grateful for everything I have learnt from him and continue to learn every single day. I wish him happiness, health, and a life filled with the same warmth and wisdom that he has given all of us.

With utmost respect and gratitude.

Your student,

- Dr. Atul Patil

Orthopaedic Consultant, Sancheti Hospital



The master. The inspiration.
The sculptor of his own life
He was the stone, his own chisel
Created the flow, that rippled the world
Spiralling through progress
Engraved the success story

Aim at goal with intention and purpose
An avid learner and astute master
Unyielding desire, nothing could stop him
Bit by bit, he did it
Every effort worth it
Day and night, 24/7
Striving with heart and soul
With perseverance and resolve

His days were boundless twilight
Multitude tasks filled the golden hours
Dusk drew out the mighty canvas
Burning the midnight oil for that extra mile
Challenges tested his strength
Adversity tried his integrity

Born with tenacity
Sweat on the brow didn't deter him
Relentless and untiring efforts
Persistence was his force
Focus had become his attitude
All he chose was perfection
to achieve the excellence

Unmatched unparalleled
Dedication
Determination
Discipline
Success was all about consistency

Today he stands proud and content
Seeds of labour have fulfilled his dream
Dream of excellence
Dream of perfection
Dream of his passion

Wherever he goes, has left heart
prints on the souls.

-Dr. Aditi Malpani
Physician, Sancheti Hospital

A STUDENT FOR EVER

My association with Padma Vibhushan Dr. K. H. Sancheti Sir dates back to 2010, when I returned to India and joined Sancheti Hospital, Pune. By a fortunate coincidence, Sir and I shared the same outpatient clinic days, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Within a few weeks, Sir began referring spine patients to me, marking the beginning of one of the most enriching learning experiences of my professional life.

Although I was never formally trained under him, I have always considered myself Sir's indirect student. Every time he referred a patient, he would write “E & D” on the case paper, Evaluate and Discuss. Those three words became a ritual. After evaluating the patient, I would return to Sir's OPD to discuss the case. He would ask me about the patient's history, clinical findings, and examination, often encouraging me to examine the patient again in front of him and explain my reasoning. These interactions were never mere discussions; they were masterclasses in clinical medicine.

Sir's philosophy towards patient care was deeply rooted in compassion and restraint. He would often tell me, “Shailesh, patients come to us for treatment, not for surgery.” That simple yet profound statement

became a guiding principle in my own practice.

One incident remains etched in my memory.

A patient with Grade II spondylolisthesis, spinal stenosis, and significant back and leg pain was referred to me. Like many patients at Sancheti Hospital, she introduced herself as one of “Sir's relatives.” It always fascinated me that people from every community and every corner of society, Marathi, Gujarati, Sindhi, Punjabi, and many others, considered Dr. Sancheti family. Such was the affection and trust he inspired.

After examining her, I felt she would require surgery. When I discussed the case with Sir, he listened patiently and then said, “Shailesh, can we first give her a trial of conservative treatment?” We did exactly that. It reflected Sir's unwavering belief that unless there was a neurological deficit or truly disabling symptoms, surgery should never be the first option. That encounter gradually transformed my own approach, making me appreciate the immense value of thoughtful, patient-centred conservative care.

A few months later, another patient with a similar Grade II spondylolisthesis came to us. This time, however, she was in severe,

disabling pain, barely able to walk despite prolonged medications and steroid therapy elsewhere. Remembering Sir's philosophy, I suggested that we could perhaps begin with bracing and physiotherapy.

To my surprise, Sir immediately responded, “No, Shailesh. This patient needs surgery.”

At that moment, I realised that Sir was never simply conservative, he was profoundly clinical. His decisions were not dictated by radiological images or fixed algorithms but by the individual patient before him. He understood that good medicine is neither conservative nor aggressive; it is about choosing the right treatment for the right patient at the right time.

That lesson has stayed with me throughout my career. It taught me that true clinical judgment lies not in following a philosophy rigidly, but in knowing when to adapt it with wisdom, experience, and compassion.

Beyond orthopaedics, Sir imparted countless life lessons. His humility, wisdom, integrity, and unwavering dedication to patients inspired generations of surgeons. Every interaction with him was an education, not only in medicine,



but in humanity.

I remain forever indebted to Dr. K. H. Sancheti Sir for shaping my thinking as a clinician and as a person. Though I was never his formal trainee, I shall always consider myself his student.

His legacy will continue to illuminate the path for generations of orthopaedic surgeons, and the aura of Padma Vibhushan Dr. K. H. Sancheti Sir will remain eternal.

- Dr. Shailesh R. Hadgaonkar
Orthopaedic Consultant,
Sancheti Hospital