

Obituary to my dear friend

Professor Dr. Jayapaul Azariah (1939-2017)

I am so sad to hear of the passing of my dear friend, colleague, partner in Indian and Asian Bioethics development, and teacher, Professor Dr. Jayapaul Azariah. He is survived by his loving daughters, and family, and many dear friends, colleagues and students all around the globe.



Jay wrote many papers and books on zoology, ecology and bioethics. We were inseparable friends since we met in 1992 in Chennai (Madras as it was called in those days), intensely discussing bioethics and together we worked to develop bioethics in the 1990s.

25 years later the term bioethics is widely known, many of our students are professors themselves developing a global understanding of bioethics. Bioethics is widely known in

India and other countries in Asia, thanks to him.

Jay also served on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Bioethics, on the Bioethics Commission of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS), and numerous other bodies.

In 1998 he was the founding President of the All India Bioethics Association (AIBA). We shared the common understanding that love was the critical message of bioethics, hence the abbreviation “Ai” Bioethics Association, with reference to the Japanese word for love (also the Chinese). He was dedicated to cross cultural understanding and exploration of bioethics, through his deep Christian faith. He was devoted to Christian service as well as academic life.

Jay was the first Vice-President for India of the Asian Bioethics Association, and served also as President of Asian Bioethics Association. He was former Professor of Zoology and Former Dean of Life Sciences, University of Madras, though he had to follow the mandatory retirement at age 60 years, from hence he taught at many institutions in India. Jay passed away while also serving as Visiting Professor of Zoology and Bioethics (American University of Sovereign Nations); Visiting Professor of Kumamoto University, Japan; and Founding Associate Editor of Eubios Journal of Asian and International Bioethics (EJAIB).

Through some joint publications, joint research work since 1993, and spreading bioethics in India, Japan, Israel, Korea, Turkey, Indonesia, China and many other countries, there is a deeper understanding of bioethics. In the joint book, Bioethics in India, in 1998, we published one hundred scholars' papers on bioethics across India. There are numerous papers of his on the Eubios Ethics Institute website (www.eubios.info).

Jay - Your smile, love, loyalty, support, wisdom and intellect will be sadly missed. May you be together with dear Hilda, with so much work accomplished towards making our world a more ecologically and ethical one.



- Darryl Macer, President, American University of Sovereign Nations

Note on the photos: I will remember Jay with his favourite sweater and smile.

There are also several youtube videos of his bioethics lectures on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvxDyY-Obo0>

(2003, TRT8, Eighth Tsukuba International Bioethics Roundtable, Japan)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6LA-_u9iNY

(2005 BBRT1, UNESCO Bangkok)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDYM-V6S7ZE&t=3s>

(2007 ABC8, Bangkok)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xggih-rhfTc>

(2007 ABC8, Bangkok)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2qJQySZxBA&t=195s>

(2009 ABC9, Indonesia, includes Prof. Azariah and another colleague Prof. Umar Jenie, who also passed away in 2017)