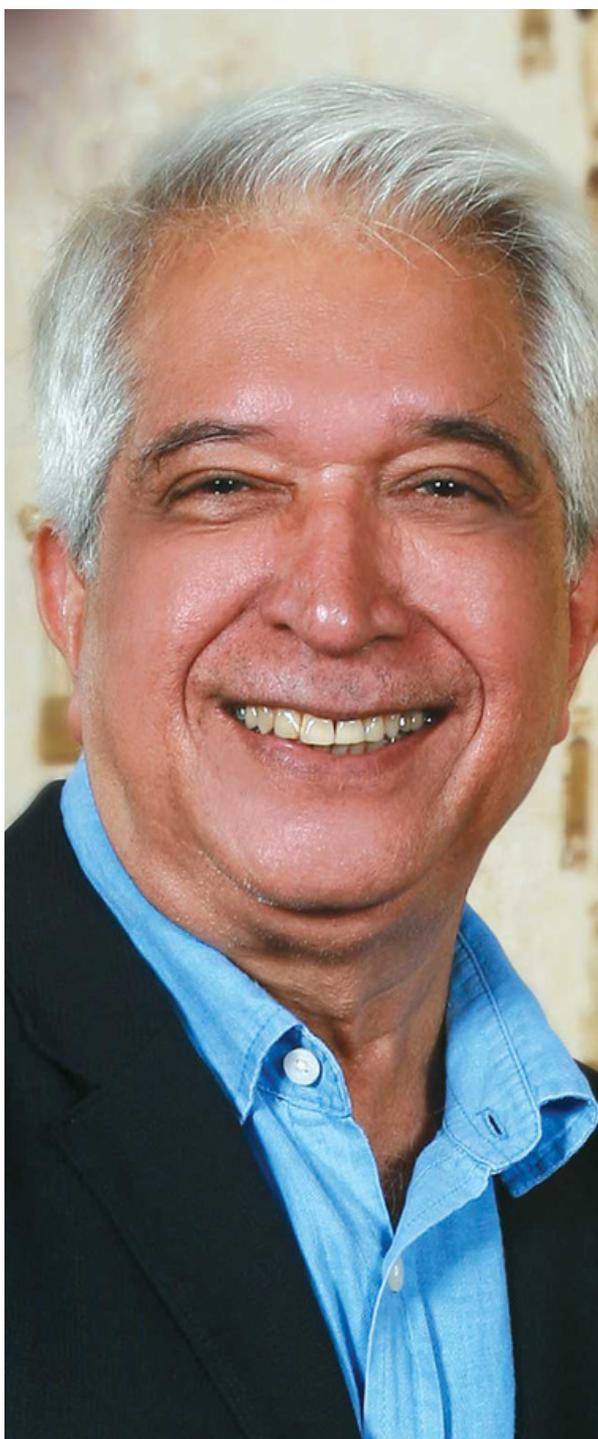


IHF TRIBUTE

# ASHOK NATH

ASIA'S HEALTHCARE VISIONARY  
FOUNDER OF THE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT ASIA



The IHF Secretariat is saddened by the news of the recent passing of Ashok K Nath, Founder and Chairman from 2002 to 2015 of the Hospital Management Asia, the leading healthcare events in South East Asia. We would like to honor his life and contribution to the industry thru this tribute.

A man of discipline and fine taste, there was more to Ashok Nath than being founder of one of Asia's most loved healthcare conferences. He was a man of honor, always deliberate with every decision and careful with every promise. Ashok was a true fan of hospitality, which quite suited his career in organizing events, not only in healthcare but also in the publishing industry.

He was so fond of and rather very keen with details, a trait which served well for his faith in quality customer service. Asia's healthcare had been gifted with a visionary who had genuine hopes for world-class healthcare standards in every Asian nation and beyond. This visionary's legacy in healthcare shall remain with the community he'd built - all healthcare professionals, business partners and supporters, and friends he worked with. And down to every trainee he'd had under his supervision who will be forever humbled and grateful for a time with a great mentor, coach, and friend. For Ashok Nath and his legacy, we will "keep rowing"

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# TRIBUTE TO AN INDUSTRY PARTNER

**WRITTEN BY ERIC DE ROODENBEKE AND LAWRENCE LAI**

It is difficult to imagine that the hospital management scene will go on without Ashok Nath who has left us on August 11th, 2019.

For the International Hospital Federation, Ashok has always been a long-standing ally. We are proud to have believed in him when he invited IHF in 2002 to be a partner supporting Hospital Management Asia, the premier event he had created. Describing HMA is reflecting the foresight and vision of Ashok. From the outset, he wanted to create an event which would contribute to the enhancement of health service management and leadership in the Asia Pacific region. To realise his vision, he launched HMA in 2002.

First and foremost, he wanted HMA to be an event where delegates would learn practical things that will allow them to improve their knowledge, skills and competency to work in health care so that patients are better treated and organizations better run. Although HMA is supported by a business model requiring sponsorships and vendors involvement for sustainability, Ashok has always made it clear that he would never compromise on the quality of the education and learning experiences provided in his event, a reflection of his commitment to realising his altruistic goal of common benefit beyond all.

Secondly, he wanted HMA to create a pleasant interaction between delegates so that they would network and build professional friendship. This is easy to put as a goal on writing but very hard to accomplish in real life because it requires interpersonal skill and a capacity to create the perfect convening atmosphere, and this was one of Ashok's many talents.

Thirdly, he wanted HMA to be well organized so that delegates could maximise their time for a great learning experience while at the event. As always, Ashok was able to get around him dedicated teams working very hard and leaving aside no details. He was a perfectionist in the best meaning of the word.

Last, but not least, he wanted HMA to support and recognize individuals and organisations for their excellence or outstanding contributions to health services. To do so, he had created various categories of HMA awards by setting up expert judging panels and fully mobilising his network to identify great projects that deserved recognition. Ashok was behind the scene making sure that all worked hard for best results based on fairness, equity and probity.

Although HMA has been immensely successful in recent years, Ashok was never satisfied or complacent. He always tried to find innovative approaches that could add value to the event for participants. He would never hesitate in trying new things, promoting new ideas and innovation- a reflection of his open-mindedness, great curiosity and uncanny ability to be on the alert on how the world is changing. Ashok was a man of vision with legendary accomplishments. All those who have the good fortune to have worked with him are saddened by his untimely passing which is undoubtedly a great loss to the health care community in the Asia Pacific region.

While we can all feel the vacuum because the space that Ashok was occupying will never be replaced, we are consoled by the fact that he has left us with legacies that will go along with all of us. A personal legacy through our interaction as an individual with him which has helped us to grow. A professional legacy because Hospital Management Asia has changed the mindset and the capacity of a generation of executives in Asia. A timeless legacy through his publication where he shared recipes and secrets for leading and success stories in health service management.  
<https://behindthesecretsofsuccess.com/about/?v=1ee0bf89c5d1>

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