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We share the news of Professor Mohammad Shafique's passing with great sorrow. On the 2nd of August 2022, at his home, our dear mentor and teacher passed away. Dr. Shafique was a pioneer of Psychiatry in Pakistan, and most notably his contributions were in the KPK province.

He was the third Psychiatrist in Pakistan and the first in KPK. He was a true Messiah to his patients and a role-model to his students. As his name implies, he was the embodiment of kindness and compassion. He paved the way for future psychiatrists in the country by transforming psychiatric teaching and patient care as they are known. Many psychiatrists in Pakistan today have been mentored and taught by Dr. Shafique. He has been regarded as the father of psychiatry in Pakistan.

In 1961, he went to England to pursue higher training in the field of Psychiatry, where he trained under Dr. John Hughes and Dr. Andy Wills at St. Cadoc's Hospital in Cardiff, Wales. He received his Doctor of Psychological Medicine degree and returned to Pakistan in 1964 to accept the post of Medical Superintendent at Dhodial Mental Hospital. He developed it into a fully functional mental hospital and revolutionised psychiatric patient care across KPK by building new foundations for the system to stand on. Later on, he was made the Medical Superintendent of Peshawar Mental Hospital and he established the psychiatric OPD at Lady Reading Hospital. His efforts inside and outside the hospital changed the perspective on mental illness in KPK and across the country.

In 1976, he was posted as an assistant professor of psychiatry at Khyber Medical College until his retirement as a professor in 1996. He initiated postgraduate training in psychiatry, thus paving the way for specialisation in the field. He acted as the UN-authorized provincial coordinator for the WHO task force on drug abuse and treatment. Eventually, he became a member of the public service commission and was made an honorary group captain by the Pakistan Air Force. In 1985, he received the MRCPsych and FRCPsych from the Royal College of Psychiatry UK for his exemplary services.

A huge gathering of patients, colleagues, students, friends and family has been left behind in fond remembrance of moments shared with such an exceptionally revered and comforting figure. The psychiatric community has been most certainly blessed in having the honor of his life-changing presence among us.

Dr. Shafique had a way of enrapturing his audience, and whenever he spoke, the masses would listen as if spellbound. Not only was he great with his words, but he was even greater at caring for the voices of others and left no one unheard.

Together, we grieve the loss of Dr. Mohammad Shafique who has led by example, and we continue to live by his reverent memory. May the Almighty bless his soul and his family with whom we share this grave loss. He is succeeded by his wife Dr. Jamal Ara, two sons Dr. Fuad and Dr. Asad and his daughter Dr. Sadia.

Note: At the time of submission of this article, Dr. Jamal Ara was alive but sadly she left for the eternal abode in December 2022.