

A TRIBUTE TO PROF. PRABHAKAR B BHAGWAT

Prof. Bhagwat was a great teacher and I consider myself to be blessed more as his disciple than a colleague. I had a long and strong association with him for almost 22 years. He was a father figure, my mentor and guide. He was an encyclopedia in himself with great charm, learnings, humour, ideologies and philosophies. It is really difficult to put down this great visionary in form of words, which may never justify his persona.

My first meeting with Sir goes back to 1990 when I met him at SPA Delhi, as a student. Later in 1991 after I settled in Ahmedabad, the first person whom I approached for professional support was Prof. Bhagwat, when he told me about initiating the Landscape Program at CEPT. In 1993, when it was finally happening, he did not forget this neophyte and called me on board. And thus commenced my long and fruitful association with him. I have been really fortunate to have him as my Guru.

He was the founder of ISOLA and the main force behind bringing all the Landscape Architects in India together. He was a hardcore professional, the first Qualified Landscape Architect of India and a great academician who had through his vast knowledge taught at various institutes of repute like SPA Delhi, NID Ahmedabad, IIT Kharagpur, and JJ School of Architecture Mumbai, to name a few.

Although Prof. Bhagwat was a visionary and great leader, for us at CEPT, he has always been a teacher. He had the knack of remembering all his students and their thesis work. He could read students like a book. He was a friend, philosopher and guide to them and would advise them in all their problems ranging from work to family and friends to love affairs to marriage etc. The bonding he developed with his students continued even after their graduation. I know the students would definitely miss their BAPU, as they fondly called him.

Even today, though he is not amongst us physically, he will always stay in our heart through his work and knowledge that he has bestowed upon us. He shall always be a source of inspiration that shall enlighten us and shower upon blessings when in need.



A teacher affects eternity; he can

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