

## Prof. Murali Mohan Biswas - My Ideal Man

I would like to speak a few words in remembering this ideal man whose statue is unveiled today at the very institute, established by him and where he donated his all.

Prof. Murali Mohan Biswas is known to you all as the SOUL of Institute of Science Education and Culture. As a Prof. of Technical Teachers Training Institute of India he achieved credible success. His all-out effort in establishing ISEC is exemplary. I would like to focus on another aspect of this noble man.

I am fortunate to have his association since 1955 when he was a Research Scholar at the Cosmic Ray Laboratory of the then Presidency College, Calcutta. Hence I want to speak about his qualities not as a Professor but as a man only. He is the incarnation of the saying “Simple living and High Thinking”. When I met him he was just a simple research scholar – Sober, Serious, Humane and Obliging. As a younger colleague, I got all the support from him. Actually, as a student of Presidency College, I looked at him as a humble young man working all throughout the hours without any show-off. His image actually impressed me to change over to research line later after my post graduation quitting a number of respectable jobs at that time.

He was a devout follower of Ramakrishna Mission, hailing from Joyrambati. His house stands next to SARADA MA’s. If you follow the life of Sarada Ma, she had close association with BHANU PISHI, who belongs to Muralida’s family.

I hope it would not be out of place to refer to one incident. We were in our Research Lab and Muralida suddenly declared that he would leave for a couple of hours by 12 noon, which was very unusual for him. Naturally we asked him about

that but he did not give out the reason. After his return also he did not reply. Being curious when we pestered him he ultimately declared he was summoned by the then Chief Minister Sri Prafulla Chandra Sen to discuss a problem of Ramakrishna Mission at Joyrambati. A young man of 30 years only with Dhoti and Shirt was important enough to CM for consultation to sort out a problem. Bragging was a term unknown to him. All such reminiscences bow my head down in respect to him.

Personally as a senior colleague he has helped me a lot in joining Max Planck Institute for Biophysik at Frankfurt with Humboldt Fellowship. At that time he was at Max Planck Institute for Physics at Heidelberg.

This really noble and I would say a pure man had a very lonely life, living in a small room over Koley Market at Bowbazar near Sealdah, and having a very small number of friends all from academic fields. He had no other hobby than academic discussions. There were many such traits one could learn from him. I think myself extremely lucky to get such a senior colleague in my life. I do always remember him as an ideal and noble man to be imitated and hence offer my earnest PRANAM.

It is very happy occasion to have his statue unveiled today (25<sup>th</sup> November 2018) in the very institute which he built up and donated, - his life achievement “Institute of Science, Education and Culture”.

(A few photographs of the event are given on the front inside cover)

**Dr. Samir Ghosh**  
Ex-Medical Officer and  
A founder member of ISEC

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