

## Deepest Condolence



It is with utter shock and grief we convey the message of untimely demise of Dr. Souvik Raychaudhuri, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Dr. Raychaudhuri is survived by his wife and daughter and a large extended family which was emotionally and financially sustained by him, other than countless friends and students. Dr. Souvik Raychaudhuri was born on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1967, to Professor Manas Raychaudhuri of Rabindra Bharati University and Mrs. Sutapa Raychaudhuri who was a teacher in Bagbazar Multipurpose Girls' High School. He started his academic life in South Point High School and formally entered the Psychology fraternity in 1986 when he enrolled for a Honours degree in Psychology in the Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta. Subsequently, he completed his post graduation from the Department of Applied Psychology, University of Calcutta and his PhD from Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta. Dr. Raychaudhuri excelled as a student from the very beginning. He came back to his alma mater (Department of Psychology) as a faculty on 31.12.1998. He is considered one of the pioneers in initiating research on the psychoanalytic aspects of cinema in India. His PhD thesis explored partition trauma as reflected in the cinematic creations of Ritwik Ghatak from a psychoanalytic lens, which was later published as a book titled "Partition Trauma, the Oedipal Rupture, Dreaming: The Cinematic Will of Ritwik Kumar Ghatak". Dr. Souvik Raychaudhuri was well known for his passion and knowledge of world cinema. He was deeply interested in fields relatively less explored by mainstream psychologists – psychological dynamics depicted in movies and media. In his recent years, through his writing he was exploring several political figures like Mahatma Gandhi, Narendra Modi, as well as cultural & literary figures such as Ritwik Ghatak, Manik Bandopadhyay to name a few. Dr. Raychaudhuri was member of several editorial boards and societies, mostly pertaining to films, media, cultural activities and cross-cultural psychology. Apart from his fathomless knowledge in Psychology and allied disciplines, Dr. Raychaudhuri was also an avid reader, had outstanding command over languages (Bengali and English) and had a keen interest in travelling. He is fondly remembered by his peers for his enthusiasm and initiatives in planning their tour itineraries. For students and colleagues (teaching and non teaching), Souvik Raychaudhuri was always an approachable person ready to lend an ear to whatever they had to say. Dr. Souvik Raychaudhuri will be remembered by his colleagues, friends and students as a simple person with a profound understanding of the human mind and the pathos of existence.