

## The Inspiring Journey of a Legend

Legends aren't born – they are carved through years of precision, patience, perseverance and purpose. The inaugural Prof HS Asopa Memorial oration is an opportunity to pay our tribute to the “Gentle Giant” of Surgery who left for his heavenly abode at the age of 91 years on November 21, 2023. Prof Hari Shankar Asopa was well known not only in India but all over the world for his expertise in reconstructive surgery, especially in the field of hypospadias and stricture urethra. He served as President UPASI (1993), President of Associations of Surgeons of India (1996) and Founder President of International Society of Hypospadias & Intersex Disorders which awards the “Asopa Lecture” to eminent international authorities in its Biennial Conference.

After completing MS (Surgery) from SN Medical College Agra, FRCS (England) and FRCS (Edinburgh), he joined Dept of General Surgery, S N Medical College, Agra as faculty and later joined as Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery at MLB Medical College, Jhansi as the youngest Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery at that time. He took voluntary retirement and established Asopa Hospital and Research Centre at Agra, largest multispecialty hospital with affordable treatment. He continued his teaching interest by training postMS doctors and running a postgraduate course of DNB in Surgery and Family Medicine at Asopa Hospital & Research Centre Agra.

He is known as Father of Hypospadias Surgery in India. He published a one stage operation for Hypospadias known as the “Asopa Technique” in 1971 which was soon being done all over the World by Urologist, Pediatric Surgeons, Plastic Surgeons & General Surgeons. In 1984, he published another operation for hypospadias titled “One Stage Repair of Hypospadias Using Foreskin Tube” which was a refinement of the original Asopa operation and is called Asopa II operation and was later described in Campbell textbook of Urology as “Asopa Procedure version 1990”. He described Dorsal Inlay Urethroplasty for stricture Urethra in 1990 which was accepted by urologists around the world recognizing this technique as a major advancement in urethroplasty with high success rate.

His description of “Pancreaticojejunostomy with invagination of spatulated pancreatic stump into jejunal pouch” (published in American Journal of Surgery in 2002) is still being used worldwide by surgeons performing Pancreatic resection.

He received “Dr. B C Roy National Award” twice - as an Eminent Medical Teacher in 1991 and as Eminent Medical Man in 1996. He was awarded “Honorary DSc” by Dr. B R Ambedkar University, Agra, in 1995 and was honored with “Hunterian Professorship” of Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1997, a rare honor for any Indian Doctor.

*His hands healed, his words inspired, and his life illuminated generations to come. Prof. Hari Shankar Asopa — Surgeon, Teacher, Visionary, and a human being beyond compare. Legends never die; they live on through those they have transformed. May his noble soul rest in eternal peace.*

**Dr. H S Asopa Memorial Oration**  
**Orator – Dr. Amit Srivastava**