

## Prof R K Rout in Memoirs

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**lisforum\_orissa**

(A web based forum of LIS professionals)

Estd. 25<sup>th</sup> October 2006

[http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/lisforum\\_orissa/info](http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/lisforum_orissa/info)

# lisforum\_orissa

(The name does not restrict its scope to Odisha state only; rather it is just a name indicating its place of origin)



(Dr. S. R. Ranganathan)

*This forum is a common platform for LIS professionals, teachers, researchers, students to share ideas, knowledge, messages, information etc. with each other for the development of LIS profession and professionals. It addresses issues on Library and Information Science, tries to solve day-to-day problems of libraries, and facilitates generation of new ideas on LIS. It works for the development of LIS profession and professionals.*

## From the Desk of Moderator

This page is intentionally left unfilled as a  
Tribute to our beloved Professor R K Rout

listforum.orissa

(Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy)

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**Photographs**

*Condolence Messages*

listforum Orissa

**CONDOLENCE MESSAGE**

"lisforum\_orissa" express deepest condolence on the sad demise of Professor R K Rout, who was "the Professor" of Library & Information Science. Prof Rout was an excellent teacher of LIS, a visionary, an innovator of new ideas, a person with humanity and affection for all people, especially for students. He was a source of inspiration and motivation for all LIS students who have come in contact with him. Prof Rout has helped and shaped the LIS carrier of thousands of LIS students. He has enlightened our lives with his blessings and thoughts.

On the 14th day of his death, we express our gratitude and pray for the departed soul to rest in peace.

May his blessings shower on us forever.

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## ODISHA LIBRARY ACADEMY

(A professional Association of Library & Information Science Professionals of Odisha)

Plot No: 706, GGP Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar- 751025

Website: [www.olibacademy.org](http://www.olibacademy.org)

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Date: 23/2/2018

### CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Odisha Library Academy expresses its deep sorrow on the sudden and sad demise of **Prof. Ratnakar Rout**, Ex- Prof. & Head , PG. Dept. of Library & Information Science, Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Burla who left for heavenly abode on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2018.

The Academy organized a Condolence meeting and two minutes silent prayer on this occasion at IG Park, Bhubaneswar on 16th February evening. Many Odisha Library Academy members along with Professors in Library & Inf. Science like Prof. Pitambar Padhi, Prof B. K. Chaudury, Prof. Puspanjali Jena and many more shared their past memories with late Prof. R.K.Rout. Prof. Rout's death is definitely a great loss to Library & Information Science profession.

The Academy convey its heartfelt condolence to the members of the bereaved family.

**May his soul rest in peace.**

Sd/

**Dr. Banamber Sahoo**  
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दिनांक 16.02.2018

**शोक संदेश**

पं. सुन्दरलाल शर्मा ग्रंथागार परिवार प्रो. आर. के. राउत, सेवानिवृत्त प्राध्यापक, पुस्तकालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान विभाग, सम्बलपुर विश्वविद्यालय, बुरला, उड़ीसा के दिनांक 15.02.2018 को असामयिक निधन पर दुःख व्यक्त करता है एवं ईश्वर से प्रार्थना करता है कि उनके आत्मा को शांति प्रदान करें साथ ही शोक सन्तप्त परिवार को इस असह्य दुःख को सहने की शक्ति प्रदान करें।

  
(डॉ. सुपर्ण सेनगुप्ता)  
विश्वविद्यालय ग्रंथपाल



**ALL ODISHA COLLEGE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
JOINT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (OCLA)**

**Regd. No. 13765/609, 1978-79**

**Plot No. 706, GadaGopinath Prasad, Bhubaneswar-25, Odisha.**

**Contact No. 9040131335, 8895892601, 7978177301, 7683827070, 9853000799**

**TRIBUTE TO PROF R.K.ROUT**

On sudden demise of Prof. R.K.Rout, an eminent teacher in Library and Information Science in India, the members of College Library Association had a condolence meeting on 15.2.2018 at 6.00 pm in the office premises of the Association at GGP Colony, Bhubaneswar. Mr Arjuna Jena, Secretary of the Association has elaborated the contribution of Prof. Rout to the teaching fraternity of library schools in Odisha. He was the first university level teacher in Library Science in Odisha. Due to his strong conviction, a good department of Library & Information Science could be developed. He was very familiar with the student's community. He was very popular among students as Rout Sir, as he helps the students in solving their personal problems. He was instrumental in making some working librarians to complete their Master degree in Library & Information Science through correspondence course of Ghasidas University of Chattisgarh. Mr. Hrushikesh Mishra, President of the Association told about the very good attitude of 'student loving teacher in library science' in Odisha. Due to his sincere personal effort the Department of Library & Information Science of Sambalpur University came to name and fame. Among other members, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Sahu, Mr. Naba Kumar Sahoo, Mr Sibabrata Sahu and Mr. Debabrata Samal spoke about Prof Rout. They observed two minutes payer for late Prof. Rout.

*Memiors from  
Friends/ Colleagues  
of  
Prof. R. K. Rout*

(Arranged in Alphabetical order of name)

**Dr Baman Parida**

Formerly Professor, Department of Library and Information Science  
Utkal University, Vani Vihar  
Bhubaneswar



Myself & my family members are shocked to hear the sad demise of Professor Ratnakar Rout. Retired from Sambalpur University, Department of Library & Information Science, Burla and my relationship with Rout Babu as Librarian, S V M College, Jagatsinghpur & Assistant Librarian, Utkal University, Study Center, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack has now come to an end. Now I pray LORD JAGANNATH let His soul rest in peace.

**(Dr. Baman Parida)**



**Prof. B.K.Choudhury**

Retd Prof, Dept of LIS

Sambalpur University, Odisha



### IN MEMORY OF PROF R.K.R

I pay homage to Prof Rout, my most intimate friend. My memory goes back to 48 years back as we were classmates and roommates in B. Lib & Inf. Sc. during 1970-71 at Jadavpur University. Many of our enjoyable moments still flashes before my eyes, perhaps the best part of my student life. I have spent many years with the company of Mr Rout. He was adorned with dynamic leadership quality and organizing capacity even while he was student there at Jadavpur University. With his keen initiatives and pursuance, for the first time in the history of the department, study tour to Delhi was conducted in January 1971. As a student, he used to argue reasonably with the teachers; hence it becomes a practice to switch over to next till he satisfied. Jadavpur University was famous for Engineering but ragging was rampant in the campus. One day some students came in late night to rag us but Rout showed his daring and dam care attitude, the way he talked, they fled away. Then it was a talk in the campus not to venture to go Room No-14 as one lion Rout is staying there. For him only I lived there peacefully. Any meeting either held in the department, hostel or in the university, with his caliber he used to deliver speeches in any topic without preparation.

We both obtained 1<sup>st</sup> class, he joined at Jagatsinghpur College and I joined at Central Library, OUAT in 1971. Subsequently he did MLIS from Karnataka University and joined in LIS department of Sambalpur University. After some days I also did my MLIS and it was my destiny to join the department of Sambalpur University to be with the company of Dr Rout again. Our friendship, cooperation and understanding, sharing of feelings grew enormously. According to his nature and leadership quality, he organised many conferences, seminars, workshops, refresher courses, cultural activities, study tours, invited many renowned professors to the department. Most credible contribution of Rout to the department and university was the creation of one professor, two Readers, three lecturers and one workshop instructor post, even remaining in the post of a lecturer. His strong mentality helped us to occupy the new building of the dept. in spite of many hurdles from many corners. Fixing of two Grill gates in the ground floor for safety of the students was done by his sole effort. We became most intimate and trusted friends at the time of our good and bad days. I and my family sincerely pray the almighty GOD to rest his soul in peace and shower strength, courage, cool, calmness and patience to the bereaved family.

Lastly I cannot but mention that when he met me first time in Jadavpur University, he used to call me affectionately “Gandharb Raj”, after some days called me “Gandharb” and then called me “GANDHI” till his last.

**(Prof B.K.Choudhury)**

## Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018

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### MY MEMOIRS WITH PROF. R K ROUT: A VISIONARY IN LIS

At the outset I record with deep sense of appreciation to the team of Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy and lisforum\_orissa, for having thought of bringing out a special issue on **Memoirs of late Prof. R K Rout** whose contributions has made a significant impact on LIS professionals in Odisha in particular. I have received a WhatsApp message from Prof. B K Choudhury, a close associate of late Professor Rout to contribute for the same. .

It is my privilege to sketch out my memoirs and reminiscences about Professor RK Rout. With a heavy heart I recollect my thoughts about late Prof. RK Rout whom I knew him at the first instance through his works such as ‘Library legislation in India: Problems and prospects’; ‘Cataloguing of Non-book Materials: A Practical Manual (AACR-2 1988 Revision)’ (jointly authored with Prof. B K Choudhury); ‘Libraries and librarianship during Muslim rule in India’ (jointly authored with Mr. Shaikh). Later I knew him personally since January 2001 when I was first invited to the Academic Staff College, Sambalpur University, as a Resource person along with Dr Harishchandra, Librarian, IIT Madras. Since then I used to visit the Department as an external examiner for the Practicals and also for many academic assignments including as an External Examiner for conducting PhD viva-voce examination, as a Member of Board of Studies, and as UGC Visiting Fellow for two terms during his tenure in the department. I was also invited to deliver keynote address for the National conference conducted on the eve of his superannuation. All these visits are associated with the great hospitality and affection.

I admired his presentations, modulation, roaring voice, and above all his simplicity and friendly approach. Since 2001 I became very close to him and frequently interact on many aspects of profession. His treatment towards students and more particularly research scholars is remarkable. His hospitality is so great that whenever I visit Sambalpur University on an academic assignment

### Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018

he takes care of me. In the morning or evening walks I had the privilege of having a cup of tea with snacks in his quarters. His friendly approach, action oriented personality, winning attitude, and commitment to the assigned tasks etc would continue to inspire and enlighten many LIS professionals in the years to come. The life, works and contributions of him certainly provides an ample testimony to his pious, humble and hard work but assertive personality. It is history and a great landmark in the annals of LIS education in Odisha that the Department of Library and Information Science, Sambalpur University can claim with proud and dignity which has been credited with UGC DRS SAP because of the untiring efforts of Prof. Rout and his team.

I still remember the saddest part of his life when his daughter, who also studied LIS visited Chennai for heart surgery. I was with him during those painful days in Chennai and we collected blood donors from my students for the girl's surgery in the Madras Medical Mission Hospital and it was successful. But after a few days the God was cruel to the family and she collapsed at the hospital itself and the final rituals were done with a heavy heart at Chennai.

The credit for starting a separate department of LIS in Sambalpur University goes to Prof. Rout. Today the LIS professionals in Odisha in general and Sambalpur in particular can boast of themselves due to the efforts made by Prof. Rout in spreading LIS education. He is a distinguished and renowned LIS professional, *Teacher par Excellence*, a matchless advocate and preacher of Library Science, a great orator, a systematic and prolific writer, editor of books and journals, towering personality, and above all an apostle of leadership qualities. He is convicted to his mission and helping tendency. Such a multi faceted personality today is not in our midst.

**Alas! We Missed Him and we cannot substitute Him** and I pray the Almighty to rest his soul in peace. I offer my deepest condolences to the bereaved family members and I pray God to bestow on them a great courage to withstand the loss of him.

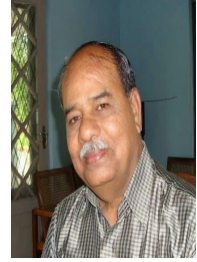
**(Prof. B Ramesh Babu)**



## Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018

### Dr. C. R. Karisiddappa

Professor and Chairman (Retd.)  
UGC Emeritus Professor (2008-2010)  
Visiting Professor (20011-2015)  
Dept. of Library and Information Science  
Karnatak University, Dharwad-580 003



### IN MEMORIAM

*Your life was a blessing  
Your memory a treasure  
You're loved beyond words  
And missed beyond measure.*

I am deeply saddened to note the sudden death of my longstanding friend Prof Ratnakar Raut. He was a distinct personality who made a notable contribution to LIS education and research. In every respect he was a pioneer who endeavoured to prepare the fertile ground for LIS profession to grow in the state. With his dynamism and dexterity, he was able to give clear visibility to LIS department in Sambalpur University. Being innovative and inquisitive, he was always exploring to embark on new ventures and succeeded in all of them.

As his long-term associate in the journey of LIS education and research, I owe a lot to him. He was the one who introduced me to south east and north east states by promoting my teaching and research activities.

Prof Raut was known for his wit and wisdom in the class and also in our professional gatherings. Every one of us loved his witty talk and it was a joy to be with him. During his stay in Karnatak University, Dharwad, he was adored and regarded by the faculty, students, and library professionals including the campus community. I was both a teacher and learning associate and our after-class discussions, intensive study, arguments and counter arguments used to go on till late in the evening. He openly designated my room a "Scholar's Workshop" and wrote this on the wall. In spite of repeated white washes it is seen even today. I remember this forever and feel that libraries gained more from his experience and maturity rather than me, giving him knowledge through teaching and guidance.

Late Prof M R Kumbhar had special place for Prof Raut in his heart. Soon after superannuation from Karnatak University, he joined him in Sambalpur University, exclusively to strengthen the Department of LIS and promote quality research activities. Prof Raut was blessed abundantly by Prof Kumbhar and hence was able to serve the cause of library profession in Odhisha. I am proud to state that Prof. Raut was a strong link in our LIS teachers' network. By his demise we have lost a dedicated teacher, a committed leader, and a foresighted visionary.

I along with my wife and children sincerely pray to God to grace all the strength to his family and friends to sustain the sudden demise of this noble soul.

*"Time takes away the edge of grief, but memory turns back every leaf."*

May his soul rest in peace.

(Dr. C. R. Karisiddappa)

Dr. D. B. Ramesh  
Chief Librarian  
Siksha 'O' Anusahdhan University  
Bhubaneswar



### Remembering Prof RK Rout

In relation to Prof RK Rout my memory goes back to last 30 years. All the things will not be fit into this piece of writing. Some occasions I wish to bring forward for which I appreciate him. I first saw him wearing a Dhoti and could hear speech in one of the LIS conferences organized in Bhubaneswar sometime in 1988.

In the erstwhile RRL, presently IMMT, Bhubaneswar Prof Rout had undertaken a career assessment of mine. It was my first personal acquaintance with Prof Rout and yielded my promotion to the next grade then. Next, it was he who introduced me to Sambalpur University in academic activities. He constantly wanted new people to be invited to the LIS department so that new ideas could be shared. Since then I became a frequenting fellow to that University in seminars, workshops and other curricular activities and congregations. He was a research minded person. I remember, he arranged an abrupt meeting in IMMT guest house with three research scholars where topics for understanding PhD were discussed and finalized. I also associated him as co-supervisor of those scholars. His in-depth enquiry into a given subject would definitely attract any one to be associated.

As a teacher he had no comparison. Befriending anybody was his art and style. I had both academic and social connection with him. I enjoyed his association in many occasions. His sad demise has left a void in LIS field and it will remain unfilled.

**(Dr. D. B. Ramesh)**

**Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018**

**Prof. (Dr.) K.C.Panda**

(Former US Fulbright Fellow)  
Former Professor, Head & Dean, Sambalpur University  
Ex-Principal, CL&ISc (SMIT)  
Gandhinagar 3<sup>rd</sup> Lane Extn. Berhampur-760001  
Ganjam, Odisha



**MESSAGE**

23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018

I am deeply saddened by the death of my senior colleague Prof. R.K. Rout who left for his heavenly abode on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 73. I am of the strong conviction that, the academic fraternity in general and LIS community in particular, has lost a gigantic and multidimensional professional and teacher in LIS domain. Prof Rout was having sound vision and innovative bent of mind with sea of ideas and was having an insatiable desire to learn and implement newness in Information cycle. His ideas and thoughts for bringing changes in LIS domain-more so in Librarianship, were appreciated by one and all. A person of good humor having the utmost capability of appeasing any one, a quality that is rarely found with none for which I always admire.

I have had the opportunity of working with him as a Member of the faculty for a long span of 16 years. During my close association with him, I learned many things from his experience. I found that Prof. Rout was remarkably having a new feature that, his consistently soft-spoken, cool minded and smile could hardly land any clue to anyone about his bad or good days, his pleasures or sufferings, frustration or winning. This is simply because; Prof. Rout had the tremendous amount of patience, hopes, courage, and aspirations to reach the destination- to day, or tomorrow. His face index is unique and quite unpredictable, hence difficult to unearth.

As and when I share some of my innovative ideas and considered opinion of doing something for the Department or some changes in syllabus and put forward to him proposals that were hardly heard of, he used to appreciate my contents of cognition, may not be by heart-but by face and gesture. Though I have had a mixed kit of experience in working with him- of both sweet and salty, but I always admire his rich experience and innovating ideas from the core of my heart for his tremendous external gesture of goodwill. His death is a great loss not only to our academic fraternity, but also to the entire library profession as well.

May God give him eternal rest and the family the strength to bear the great pain? My most sincere condolences to the family in grief. With above candid message, I remain.

An Unfortunate Colleague

Sd/-

Prof. K.C.Panda

**(Prof. (Dr.) K.C.Panda)**

**Pitambara Padhi**

Formerly Professor, Department of Library & Information Science  
Utkal University  
Vani Vihar  
Bhubaneswar



**Professor Ratnakar Rout: as I know him**

My acquaintance with Prof. Rout dates back to 1972 when he met me in Burdwan compound of the University Law College at Cuttack for the first time. He had come to know from me, the minimum requirements of a library to be established by him as a new one, when he got an appointment in Utkal University as Asst. Librarian at UGC Study Centre located at Revenshaw College. The very first meeting was quite memorable and I felt it as if “love at first sight”. I find him very much soft spoken with a lot of imaginative ideas, who could able to make friendship within no time. From that time onwards, our friendship was established by meeting each other in every day evening at College Square. By then, he was BSc with BLIS degree from Jadavpur University. However, his craving for professional education took him to Karnataka University on study leave, where he successfully completed MLIS with gold medal and a cash prize in 1976. Incidentally in the same period Library and Information Science Department was newly established and Prof. D. B. Krishna Rao was offered appointment to be its head for 1977-78. During that period Prof Rout got an opportunity to join as its first lecturer and he continued in the department till his superannuation as Reader and Professor.

His insatiable hunger for knowledge in different branches made him a graduate in Arts, Law and Post Graduate in Political Science in addition to his professional degree. Besides heading and successfully organizing the department, he could be able to get UGC SAP status for the department because of his single minded dedication and ceaseless effort. A good number of conferences, workshops, summer institutes, seminars, orientation and refresher courses were well organized by him for updating of knowledge. Two projects financed by UGC and INSDOC were also completed by him. By dint of his rich teaching experience and research he also successfully guided 12 scholars, who obtained their PhD degree who are well placed at national level. The last one was awarded in September 2017 and Dr Debraj Meher was the last scholar in the series. This perhaps made him a Karmayogi in spite of his failing health.

His innovative thinking had given value and opportunity to set up a workshop cum information processing laboratory with a workshop instructor, which is a first of its kind and subsequently became a model for other departments in India.

### Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018

As an educational administrator and manager, he successfully demonstrated his calibre as the chairman, PG Council; Member of the Senate, Academic council and Syndicate. His participation in Senate, Syndicate and Academic Council added academic value to the university.

He visited USA and UK in 1986 on a programme of visiting to American libraries along with 9 other participants from Africa and Asian countries being a Reader and head of the Department, such a benefit, which is rarely availed by other professionals in the country. This shows his academic popularity in national level.

Being a successful father and responsible family head, he also had provided ample scope to his children for higher studies with comfortable life but untimely demise of his son and daughter had given him much pain. In spite of up and down with all odds of life, he was quite active, popular, passionate and very much affectionate to his wife and children. His heavenly abode on 15.2.2018 is a great loss for the profession and his family and particularly for me, he was in fact a friend in need is friend in deep.

From a very humble beginning of a Demonstrator, he could able to reach the pinnacle of glory in our profession by dint of his indomitable perseverance towards a successful human being. Hope, his life and works will be an inspiration to the young generation to come.

I earnestly pray before the almighty to shower heaven's choicest blessings on the bereaved family to withstand the calamity to lead a peaceful life. May his soul rest in peace...

**Pitambara Padhi**

**Prof. R N Mishra**

Head, Dept. of Library and Information Science

Mizoram University, Aizawl

Dated the 21st February 2018

mishramzu@gmail.com



**MY AFFILIATION WITH PROF. R K ROUT- A SUCCINCT NOTE**

Initially, I extend my whole hearted regards to Prof.R K. Rout. An adorable, dynamic and self destined personality Prof. R K Rout is a luminary in the field of Library and Information Science who was committed to his profession. A great visionary with dynamic personality Prof. Rout could prove himself an icon in the profession. My association with him was very politely warm and friendly from the day I entered to the Department of Library and Information Science, Sambalpur University. A long association with Prof. Rout for more than 19 years not only transformed the life with lot of academic enrichment but also in the administration. His contribution to the academic world is enormous as he was very sound in his subject knowledge. I feel proud to be a student of such a dynamic personality at both BLIS and MLIS program and subsequently as an staff of the Department which not only expanded the knowledge dimension but also substantially added value in acquiring the administrative qualities, leadership that helped me to reach to such an elevated position. Prof. Rout believed in the value of professional education and being a true academician he was an inspirational force to lead the profession in a challenging way. He believed in pursuing a lifelong quest for learning and research that resulted him to obtain the most dignified D.Sc degree in the Library and Information Science which was first in the state. He also initiated for the first time in Orissa to commence M.Phil program in the Department. He was instrumental to get SAP to the Department which is again first time in Orissa. His lectures were very clear, lucid and extraordinary. I am experienced with each step of his academic development, promotion from Lecturer to Professor, Head of the Department to Chairman P G Council and other statutory responsibilities. In every stage, he was effectively discharging his responsibilities very lucidly. Despite of his various responsibilities in various administrative cadre, he not only actively collaborated in research in various areas of Library and Information Science but also extended due priority to teaching Apart from a being member of the Works Advisory Committee, Library Committee, etc. Prof. Rout was also the Chairman of the NAC, Burla and he carried out these tasks with promptness, efficiency, and good cheer and zeal. I bow down before such a visionary, dynamic and legendary personality

**(Prof. R N Mishra)**

*Memoir from  
LTS Professionals/Students*

(Arranged in Alphabetical order of name)

**Prof. Bulu Maharana**

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There are some people who come into our life and remain there forever, in the times of joy and sorrow. The person who has always been so positive and brazen throughout his life and spread the same values to everyone who come in contact with him was Prof. R. K. Rout, my beloved teacher. He was in true sense a friend, philosopher and guide to hundreds of students like me. My association with 'Rout Sir' has drawn lots of experiences both as a student and later as a colleague. The tremendous energy and unbound ideas reflected during his entire career. Every morning, he would come to the class with a new idea and infuse the same to the entire class. We have come across his maiden thoughts of 'data science', 'sustainable mobile library service in rural areas', 'library internship', 'open air study centre' and many more even years before these terms came to lime light. He never liked bookish knowledge, but application of knowledge in real life. One morning when we went for the class, he asked each one of us to carry a chair or a table to shift to the new building where the Department now operates; we would not have got it otherwise. He had a unique style of teaching and making himself update even long after he was superannuated. His quarter in the university was a community centre for each of his students. The Department had the honour to be inducted under DRS-SAP of UGC as the second Department in the country as recognition to the high class teaching, research and extension which he laid the foundation. The coconut tree he planted in the Department, the 'Ethnic Garden', the 'information processing lab' he envisioned all bear the memory of our 'Rout Sir'. I along with all the DLISSUians pray Lord Jagannath for his soul rest in peace and his blessings may always keep us moving forward.

**(Prof. Bulu Maharana)**



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### CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Date: 15 Feb. 2018

It was indeed shocking to hear that my teacher, Prof. R.K.Rout, Head of PG. Dept. Of Library & Information Science of Sambalpur University in Jyoti Vihar at Burla, Odisha left for heavenly abode today at 1.30 P.M. He used to be my teacher during my post graduation in LISc. in 1987-88. He is absolutely the best teacher I have ever met. I can still recollect the terminology “**Academic Information Bank**” written in our LIS Seminar library. He used to teach us *Information retrieval System* in our MLIS curriculum. Some of my fondest memories from university include, he inspiring me to become Dept. Seminar Secretary and organising weekly seminar and annual day meet of the department. The day that leaves an indelible mark in my mind is 15<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 1989, when I joined RMRC Bhubaneswar as Asst. Librarian. How considerate of him when he came to Bhubaneswar all the way from Burla just to congratulate me and proudly apprise the then Director of RMRC late Prof. L.N. Mohapatra about me. His memories are still afresh in mind and words may fall short to express them all.

I offer my sincere condolence to his family.

May his soul rest in peace.

(Dr. Banamber Sahoo)

**Dr B DPanda**  
OCS (I) (Sr) Rtd.



Well, this is a short account and reminiscence on the sad demise of Prof. Dr. Ratnakar Rout who built the library science faculty in Sambalpur University in 1975\_6. I had the opportunity of pursuing the [B.lib.sc.in](#) 1976\_7 after I had completed my M.Sc.(zoology) from G.M. College, Sambalpur in 1976. Here I met with the versatile professor Dr. Ratnakar Rout, a tall and shining figure quiet student loving and always smiling and amusing. We had close relationship and discussion on Odisha public libraries scenario then. Then an enthusiastic person namely late Naranayan Purohit joined Dr Rout to open voice on Odisha public library act for enactment. As a draft bill was prepared in consultation with Prof. Rout and submitted it to the government in 1977. Thanks when I joined the department of culture in 1980 the draft was noticed by me as I was posted to take care of Library act and public library services.

During the incumbency Dr Rout organized one national seminar on library automation on funds of UGC. He was a good organiser and orator. His lectures were enchanting and lively. He had organized one seminar on public library act in 1981 when I had just joined the government after quitting the lectureship in Zoology in UGC scales from government college, Sundergath in 1980, Dr Rout was in my touch. We were in frequent correspondence and his advice was noted with gratification. He was an author of cataloguing and compiler of the library acts of India. Thanks he was much happy to see the Odisha public libraries Act 2001 well cherished by him since 1970s.

Friends Prof. Rout is well known personality in library movement in Odisha and the country for his edited work on Indian library acts.

I am immensely benefited from him. He was a pillar of success and encouragement for me and so many others. Dr Rout is a towering personality as far as Sambalpur University is concerned. He has made me feel like a king maker and I cannot forget the indelible ink left over my mind. He has left us in great despair and loss. May he live in eternal peace in heaven and shall be showing the kindness and keenness till his name remains in the world of Library science.

**(Dr B.D.Panda)**

**Dr Bibhu Prasad Panda**

Associate Professor & Principal  
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It is indeed very sad news for all of us, specifically to LIS profession and personally to me being a student of Prof. Rout sir. I still remember the memorable days I enjoyed in Department of LIS, Sambalpur Univ in general and with Rout sir in particular, during my study in M. Lib Science period. What a marvelous teacher, orator, researcher and good human being by heart, you are sir.

You are a very good teacher in class room, a friend in picnic, a leader in public place, a poet in leisure time in gossiping (still remembering *udigala kukuda ra para , basanta pabanara agamane...*), and also the water cycle drawing on the black board or playing Holi under the tree with us inside the university campus , a great motivator, a good human being and you teach us how to make ourselves happy in all circumstances. All the good time I spent in class room from 1993to 1994, in ur house discussing with you , while taking the joy of taste of the new recipes (gauva jam, fruit jelly etc) prepared by madam, in picnic enjoying simple food like Dalma, Jeera rice, tomato khata etc ,

Apart from excellent career in LIS, contribution to LIS education in Odisha, a pioneer to introduce first M.Phil course in Sambalpur Univ in Odisha and probably first in Eastern India, also mentoring the establishment of library legislation laws for Orissa state. one can learn how to be happy and satisfied with all difficulties that is both sides of the same coin from you sir. Leaving this materialistic world, sir, you make us totally sad, specifically to all the students of DLISSU. I personally feel very sad and my deepest condolences for your departure and pray that your soul may rest in peace. My last *namaskar* to you sir and u will remain in my heart and mind forever. We are blessed to have a teacher like you.

We all miss you sir. Keep us blessings from the other world.

Your loving student,  
Bibhu

**( Dr Bibhu Prasad Panda)**

**Dr C.K.Swain**  
Librarian  
IIM, Raipur (C.G)



### **“LEARN WITH FUN” –THE CONCEPT OF TEACHING OF ROUT SIR**

I have many things to share on the life and principles of Prof R.K.Rout, but the most important character of his life, which impress me lot is his quality of teaching with fun .I remember after passing out BLIS from Rourkela ,I along with my BLIS classmates came to Sambalpur University for pursuing MLIS course. I was little bit excited about the teaching process of the University ,since we had come from other institutions .I was prepared to attend the class of Rout Sir, who was the Professor of the department with books, copies, pen etc. But when he came to class, he came with no books, no notes. Simply he came and started talking with us in a normal way. In between he used to give various examples related to information, information processing, repackaging etc. He was teaching us “Information Processing and Retrieval” paper. He was not strict to the theoretical aspects of the paper rather he was discussing it in its practical aspects giving many examples. During his teaching he used to give examples of use of some common science in life like water cycle, some modern odia poetry like “*Baga jai dure Udi*,” “*dei papribaki tumara kapola kalpita kapala ru dui sets square jami*” etc. It was very much interesting to attend his class without any tension, fear for subject, which simultaneously helped us to analyse the subject in our own ways not related to theories only. Now being a practicing Librarian, I feel the importance of his teaching method. Really he was a great teacher with high teaching quality.

The sad demise of Rout Sir is a great loss for all of us.

**(Dr C.K.Swain)**

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### Homage to My Philosopher Professor

Many of you have met him before and after I. He holds almost all the posts a successful university teacher aspires to. With glowing face this wise man has a propensity to know almost everything and actually he knows also. His knowledge is not limited to the subject he masters. Be it class room, seminar talk and discussion, a picnic jaunt, a drawing room chit chat the other person must learn something while being with him. He can tell you many things about anything and anything about something. He asks many times— are you going to library? How many steps it requires to reach there? What is the name of the tree in front of the library building? Which confectioner is preparing the best quality of Kalakand? What is the cotton count of your Sambalpuri saree? Particular furniture is made up of which wood? He has a sense of details. You are a stranger and would remain no longer a stranger within next five minutes. And this tall man would definitely leave a sweet etch on your memory when you parting him. Are you in some trouble? Whether you are known to him personally or not it does not matter. Just approach him and get solution. Many cataclysmic happenings in his life fail to cast a shadow in his smiling face. A trivial conversation with him would land you at some other world imbued with his philosophy. He is a true philosopher indeed.

But alas! My philosopher professor is now on his journey to heaven.

I fortunately happened to be his student in the BLIS course in Sambalpur University wherein he was Professor and metamorphosed myself as his disciple as the course was over. Since I was in dire need of a job he arranged the same in GM College Library. For this only I am in job from the next day of my BLIS result was published. After seven month I was selected for Asst. Librarian in HKM State Library and in 2010 as Librarian in Central Library, OUAT. But I could not join in OUAT because there was no pension provision for new entrant of government jobs in 2005 and I would have been deprived of pension and pay protection. My professor, from Cuttack, rushed to meet the Vice-Chancellor, OUAT just only to avail his student pay protection and pensionable service benefit. To best of my knowledge no teacher would meet a Vice-Chancellor to request for salary protection of his student— it was a rare event. He was such concerned and caring of his students.

The student-teacher relationship in Sambalpur University was that of parent-child. Sir was quite affectionate and Madam as well. Their children, Budha and Budhi (son and daughter) called us student folk 'dada', or elder brother (*nani* to girl students). That connection turned into relations later on. Whenever Sir was visiting my house he was making aware my wife of city society, specially never to open door for any stranger.

### Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018

Once I visited him at his residence in Sambalpur University when he was the Chairman, PG Council. He showed me his DLitt thesis. It was on TQM. The moment I was fascinated towards the topic and under his guidance completed my PhD also. Despite his eye pressure, tears rolling down, he would be reading the proof copy word by word with directions necessary for omission and commission required on that page. Mine was his last academic assignment. This is how he shaped my professional career.

His house was open to everybody. I used to drop in anytime without prior ring. Before a week, I just enquired about his well being and Madam advised me to talk to Sir directly. I sensed some inconsistency in his voice and decided to meet him in the evening. He was discharged from nursing home on that day. He reprimanded me first for my evening visit. Despite his ill health he was concerned of my night-return to Bhubaneswar. In that condition, he enquired about my father, wife, son and even my dog also. He was very vocal on that day, although having irritation in his throat while talking. We talked on many things as usual. He advised me to live in peace—peace is the worthiest of all. He was having sodium problem, a usual problem in old age. I am familiar with this problem since my mother was also suffered from. He was idling on a sofa. I could see his swelling feet. Just hold his feet and adjusted those on a cushioned stool for his more cozy seating. Felt... I was immersing in a sea of blessings. I returned blessed.

He had many problems simply enough to devastate and shatter someone but they were unable to wipe out his brand smile from his face. How should I remember him? He was teacher in class room, friend outside, a buddy in picnic, advisor in career, fire brigadier for a problem, a marketer of talent, a breathing space for helpless, mentor in study, a father-like teacher for any student and always a giver and finally a true philosopher who looks life differently.

Sir and his philosophy will be with me forever. Yesterday, I was basking in the shadow of his blessings, and now onwards still hope I shall be in his divine protection...

Debraj

**Dillip Kumar Patnaik**

Knowledge Garden, Driems

Cuttack, Odisha



## TRIBUTE TO MY TEACHER, MENTOR AND GUIDE....THE GREAT

It is an honor to write this tribute to Prof. Dr R.K.Rout—my teacher and colleague. Whatever role he played, and from whatever vantage point, he stood apart as someone special and admired by people far and wide. I've met quite a lot of people in my life, of many tricks and style but only some have left a lasting impression. He was one of those few people. He was illustrious and never ceased to win hearts by his firm, fair and consistent ways of manner. A teacher who has earned the right to be called "GREAT" in our profession.

I first met him at SU when I joined as a student of P.G.Dept. Of Lib. & Inf. Sc. In 1991. His charismatic personality and style of teaching abilities were readily apparent and impressed me a lot! It was clear that he would most likely have an outstanding career as an educationalist. I found him a teacher of amazing charisma and he could keep you engaged for hours as he shared his teaching adventures or the latest stats of his visit to western countries. This first encounter marked the beginning of my longstanding professional likeness and gratitude which seemed to last forever. I spent more than one year in SU but never ever faced any difficulties as if I was protected under a huge umbrella. Not only was he a great teacher but he also acted as our family. He always was concerned for us and wanted to make us feel at home and he achieved in doing so.

After completion of MLIS I came back to BBSR. Again I got a chance to meet my Sir. He offered me classes for library science courses which were started by him in Nayapalli area, Bhubaneswar. Every morning I got a chance to sit with him and together we had discussion about my future course of action. He used to encourage me and after I cleared NET it was his advice that I followed and joined Ph.D. After working few days over there I left for Delhi. It was due to my misfortune that I lost contact with my teacher until 2011.

Due to family problem I got back to BBSR and by the blessing of my Lord bestowed upon me that I had a chance to see my teacher yet again. It seems the Fates and entwined our life together. He came in as a sun giving rays of hope when I was encircled with darkness. He offered me a job when I was desperately looking for a living, longing for bread. For the next few years we worked together. A man he was, who was never to be found sitting idle or wasting time chattering away with others for no apparent reason. My Sir was very much committed in doing something new and was always focused in improving library systems in DRIEMS. It took him just a couple of days to work magic and name the central library of DRIEMS as "KNOWLEDGE GARDEN". A

### Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018

man who valued education, he thrived to create a model library in Odisha which could serve as a better place for students to learn and teachers to work. He was indeed a transformational leader and an agent, working for bringing about a change who dreamt of a bright future and what library facilities could be. As if blessed by greek goddess Athena, he had a gift of innovative thinking, a visionary spirit, and the tenacious patience which transformed him into a successful leader capable of leading a meaningful educational reform. Having worked with Sir, quite a lot over the last few years, I learned a great deal about his cherished love for all of us and our families.

At home, he was always available to all. He rescheduled his whole timetable just to greet and meet those who visited him. No matter how insignificant the matter was he tended to everyone's request and; no one ever returned from his house unhappy. One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our deepest human feelings those who understands others problem and are trustworthy but omnipresent. He was such. I will always be in awe of his teaching and passionate spirit, and grateful for his firm belief in my artistic abilities. I will be forever grateful to him for his steadfast commitment to living a life filled with seeking his passion and teaching me to do the same. Tireless work and profound intellectual insight was what distinguished him from others.

It was a privilege for me to have been a part of my sir's life. Although much too short, his, was a life well lived! He was a determined, visionary, collaborative, goal-oriented, caring person who loved life and all that it offered. But he was one of a kind and will be dearly missed and will be remembered as a GREAT teacher in our profession. Sir - you will be missed by many, but never will be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to have known you. I am proud to have been Professor 'GREAT' sir's student at the Sambalpur University .And I am proud to be his student today.

I join his many admirers in wishing his soul to rest in eternal peace. He surely be offered nothing but a place in Elysium.

**(Dillip Kumar Patnaik)**



**Sri Gangadhar Kar,**  
Librarian  
HKM State Library, Bhubaneswar



### HOW I KNOW PROF ROUT

Prof Dr Ratnakar Rout left us on 15.02.2018 which is a great loss to the Library profession in general, especially for the State of Odisha.

Though, I am not his student, I met him in various occasions and attracted to his personality due to his amicable behavior, depth in Library and Information Science Subject and organizing capacity. As a student of first batch of Library and Information Science, Utkal University, Vanivihar, I heard the name of Prof. Rout during 1981 as he was the pioneer of Library and Information Science Department of Sambalpur University. Fortunately, I met him in the 1991 in HKM State Library while he made a visit to see one his students Sri R. P. Behera, who had joined in this library. His appearance and discussion regarding Library Legislations in the State of Odisha impressed me on that day. No doubt, though his assignment was an academician but his endeavour for development of Public Library in the state with an organized manner by enactment of Public Library Act cannot be ignored. His book namely “Library Legislations in India” is a very useful source for preparing the draft for Public Library Act. His contribution to the field of Public Library Movement in the State since 1976 and onwards is a land mark achievement for enactment of Library Act in the State of Odisha.

His name shall be dazzled in the annals of the history of Library Movement in Odisha for ever. I pray to the God for his departed soul rest in peace.

**(Sri Gangadhar Kar)**

**Ilarani Senapaty**  
Librarian - SVSE&T  
Madanpur  
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Mob-9439917629



When I see the message, I am extremely pained & think that I have lost a great teacher. Dr Ratnakar Rout was no more. He worked as a Professor, Dept of Lib & Inf Sc, Sambalpur University since 1976 onwards. During the days of my studentship in the dept. I fully satisfied with his teaching process. I found him as an honest, hardworking & also good behavior.

Dr Rout was indeed a valuable asset of Library Science. It creates a great loss to the profession of library Science. So I pray to god, let his soul rest in peace

**(Ilarani Senapaty)**

**Dr Kamal Lochan Jena**

College of Engineering & Technology

Bhubaneswar – 751029



### **ROUT SIR AS A GUIDE**

To the best of my knowledge Prof R K Rout was a true guide to every person whoever he may be. He always tried to guide the person in a positive manner and direction. Anybody who came to him did not return in empty hand. For every problem there was multi solution lies with him. During my studentship and even after that I never had seen him in shy face. In spite of all odds and up and down in his personal life always he had a smiling face. To a small thing he would narrate in such a manner that you would be inspired and be compel to think about it; and if it is a object definitely you would make a plan to see it. He was master in creating a positive attitude in the mind of a failure person. Apart from these he was a daring person to take steps to achieve the goal. Many teachers have the feelings of groupism towards the students, but this was not applicable to him. Any student came to him for solution or advice had not return empty handed. During his teaching he had the capacity to present the scenario of whole world on any given subject within five minutes.

Time is powerful. With the passage of time everybody will leave the world and in that path Rout Sir had gone, but it is to some extent untimely and early. Anyway he had passes away and he will be in our memory forever.

**(Dr Kamal Lochan Jena)**

**Dr Manoj Mishra**

Asst Librarian  
IMS SUM Medical College  
Bhubaneswar



**ROUT SIR, AS I KNOW HIM**

I am thankful to Dr Debraj Meher (one of the PhD scholars of Rout Sir) for having introduced me with Rout Sir, a visionary man in LIS profession at his Kalyani Nagar residence in Cuttack.

In my first meet with Rout Sir, I was so impressed that what a personality he was! He was a man of vision and dedication towards the LIS profession. In his conversation with me, he wants to know about me. Who I am, what I am doing, where is my working place etc. After receiving all the information, he trusted on me. He became happy when he knew that I have been awarded PhD in Library and Information Science. He offered many professional tips to me and also asked about some of my colleagues whom he knows.

I was a student of Utkal University. When I was studying in this University, Rout Sir was associated with Sambalpur University. I don't get any opportunity to interact with him in any concern. I heard from others that he was very helpful for the students. I believe this statement after I met him.

When I meet him for 2<sup>nd</sup> time, he remembered me and asked about my PhD guide (Dr. R. K. Mahapatra) who is now working as Assoc. Prof. in Tripura Central University. I became happy to hear him. He talked to me about 30 minutes on that day.

In my third visit to him, we discussed many official things on different Universities of Odisha. We discussed on the professional status of librarians in Odisha. We also discussed some other personal matter and take a cup of tea with him before leaving his residence at 9:00 pm.

My fourth visit was the last visit to him on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2018. When I heard he was hospitalized for some health problem, I rushed his residence at 6:00 pm and came to know that he was released from the nursing home one day before. Dr. Meher and I discussed some professional matter and spent 3 hours with him up to 9:00 pm. After all, he was good human and I salute him in his absence for his noble vision and dedication towards the Library and Information Science profession. Really I was inspired by his memorable words.

Every human being is mortal. We cannot change the nature of law. But such was the personality of Rout Sir he has become immortal in the hearts of many people like me who are not even his students.

**(Dr Manoj Mishra)**

**Dr. Nihar K Patra**  
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### HOMAGE TO ROUT SIR

We the library professional are truly saddened to hear of the passing of Prof. R K Rout and would like to convey the sincerest condolences to his family members. Prof Rout was well respected for his services in the field of library and information science. His service to LIS community as a pioneer established an LIS department at Sambalpur University. He would be much remembered for his unstinted support for building bridges between academia and industry. I personally remember this feeling, though Prof. Rout is not my professional guide, without his support and affection, it would be difficult for me to complete M.Phil programme and reach this stage. Venerable professor R K Rout would be greatly missed not just by LIS professionals but the people who are now standing on their feet by his support and blessing.

May his soul be blessed with eternal peace.

With Grief,

**(Dr. Nihar K Patra)**

**Mr. Pradyumna Kumar Panigrahi**  
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### **SOME VALUABLE MOMENT WITH PROF. ROUT SIR.**

Prof. Rout was a veteran; renowned professor of LIS, still than he was a normal /simple human being. He was an inspirer/ advisor /well-wisher of all LIS students / professions. As I was a native of Burla,; LIS student, I was meeting him; discussing about my career several times. He was giving good suggestions about my career development all the time, how to develop in the professional career etc.

During the year 1995, I was working as a Professional Assistant at a Library automation firm in Delhi. Prof. Rout came to Delhi with student for study tour. When I came to know, that Sir is in Delhi, I ran to meet him to get some valuable guidelines. At that time, I was very worried about my professional carrier. He advised me very gentle and easily that you take a short-term computer training course on CDS/ISIS which are conducted at INSDOC (now it is NISCAIR); the Director of INSDOC of that time was known to him. Immediately, I went to INSDOC; meet with the Director,; give him Prof. Rout's reference. He was very happy with Prof. Rout Sir's reference; gave me valuable suggestions about the library automation training course and its demand in the coming era.

Unfortunately, due to mismatching of timing schedule, I could not join in that course in those days, but I got an opportunity to learn CDS/ISIS,; from that day I put my focus on learning of library automation, barcode technology, etc.; this practice helped me in my later future, what I am today.

So, I am missing Sir a lot. Only due to Prof. Rout sir only it was possible for me to get an opportunity to discuss with INSDOC's Director about learning of library automation, which helped me in my career growth. No doubt, it was a very small discussion with Rout Sir. I think it was for two to three hours only each day for two or three days, I went to Sir's camp residence at Delhi for meeting him, which helped and boosted me in my career development.

In those days it was not so easy to get library automation training; and also library- techno-expert persons were not available for discussions. But I had the opportunity to have Rout Sir with me. Even though I was not his direct student of Sambalpur University, he had never treated me as an outsider. This was what Prof R.K.Rout, a perfect and true teacher of LIS.

I pay my sincere homage on this occasion.

**(P.K.Panigrahi)**

**Premaraj Mishra**

Manager, Information Services,  
Tata Steel Limited, Jamshedpur



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF PROF. R. K. ROUT,  
OUR TREASURED TEACHER**

बहवो गुरवो लोके शिष्य वित्तपहारकाः ।  
क्वचित्तु तत्र दृश्यन्ते शिष्यचित्तापहारकाः ॥

The sudden demise of Rout Sir is loss of a creative mind. He was caring and loving personality and his contribution for the strengthening of Dept. of Lib. & Info. Science, Sambalpur University (DLISSU) is well recognized in the country with its products. He would be remembered in the history of DLISSU and LIS communities in India.

Apart from teaching, he was also a writer. His cultural pieces were prominent as he also used to write poetry seating on the chair and looking at the mountain from the window of his house. He used to tell us the Blue Nile River is flowing beside his house at Cuttack. The Nile River is the giant Taladanda Canal. He had designed an insignia or logo in the department to brand the DLISSU. Many people didn't even understand the thought he had for the DLISSU.

On the occasion I would like to through some light on the path I walked along with Rout Sir though I have sufficient stock of memories in my pocket on him. He always advised me that obstacles and mistakes will be your greatest teachers. In class rooms many times he told students that the chalk and talk method was over. He was always using inclusive learning technique for teaching. Many times we learnt about his significant innovative ideas. May it be gathered from his innovation chamber (Rest room). He assigned projects to the students on challenges faced by locals and not theoretical. It may be to create database of various kind of paddy crops cultivated in the locals or poultry farming in the area of Burla, Godbhaga, Attabira. I under took a project during my MLISc. to survey government school libraries and find the status. Based on the status he suggested let us seek MP LAD fund for 20 to 30 libraries. The cost is very less even within Rs. 1000 for each library. There will be a box, note pad, a pen and set of books with its list. The box will be handed over to a teacher in the school. He should be asked to issue the books to the children. The cost of book is within ten rupees in that time. These are NCERT books and other books of less cost available in the market. The issued books are allowed to students to take home. Students as well as poor parents read the books at their home. The importance of library is to be developed from childhood. Teacher in charge of the best used library are to be awarded by

District Collector in a social function. I want to convey message that he was a teacher who always try to teach from his heart rather than from books.

My MLISc project work was competed in his guidance staying at his duplex. In hot summer, we used to have ripe *Bael* fruit juice in the afternoon every day. He used to eat ripe Jamun fruit with salt. It was collected with the help of Mr. Raghu, who was a peon in our department. Since Jamun fruit reduces diabetes in human body. I have learnt from him that sufficient drinking of water causes reduces the hair fall. We used to watch evening Odia Samachar in his house with a cup of tea. Many times we have taken dinner in his house as well.

I realized the quote by Mimi Novic that “Throughout this journey of life we meet many people along the way. Each one has a purpose in our life. No one we meet is ever a coincidence” when I joined DRIEMS as Librarian, though it was a time span of limited six months. I enjoyed every moment of the journey, and appreciate where I was at that moment instead of focusing on how far I have to go. Both Rout Sir and I had noted down almost 100 of titles for the central library in DRIEMS College. Out of which we had finalized five titles, which is sent for the approval from the Chairman and Knowledge Garden title is finalized. Since my joining in DRIEMS College, he was excited to create world class library along with digital library provision. We started the journey, but I left the college as I got the better opportunity to work with Tata Steel, Jamshedpur. At least on Teacher’s Day, we spoke if not on other day and his voice encourages me to do something new apart from asking about my wellbeing. He always remembers to ask about my wife Anita, who was also one of his students and about my daughter.

Rout Sir's was an eminent Rajput (always having a sword in his home) in true spirit, philanthropist and social activist (active member of Senior Citizen Club of Cuttack) of unparalleled and impeccable reputation as a LIS Guru.

Undeniably Rout Sir's departure from this mortal world has left all students as well as many people across the length and breadth of the country in a state of shock and grief. His name will remain alive in this context for a long time to come.

Finally I offer condolence to the bereaved family and also prayed the Almighty rest the departed soul in eternal peace and give the courage and patience to bear the irreparable lose

(Premraj Mishra)



Prof ( Mrs) Puspanjali Jena  
 Professor & Head  
 Dept. Of Library & Information Science  
 Utkal University



Bhubaneswar

ଭାବ୍ଯ ସ୍ଵାମୀ ଜୀ ପାଠ୍ୟ ପଠେ ।

ସ୍ଵାମୀ ମନଃସିଂହେ ପାଠ୍ୟା ଜ୍ୟଥା ସତ୍ତ୍ଵ ଚକ୍ଷୁଷ୍ଠଃ, ସାମଣୀ  
 ଶତ ସାମସ୍ତୁ ଶିଃ ଶାହିୟ (-2017) ରେ ମେମ୍ବର ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 କହି ନିଶ୍ଚୟେ ଦେବା ସମାଜରେ କହିଲେ "ସୁଖ୍ୟ ସହାମୋର  
 ଶେଷ ନିଶ୍ଚୟେ" କାହାଣୀ ଦେଲେ ଦୁଇ ଥର । ମୁଁ କିନ୍ତୁ  
 ଏବେ ତା ଜୋର ଦେଲେଲୁଛି । ଭୂତା ପୂର୍ବରୁ ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ଶତ ନାହିଁ ଦେଲୋ କହିବାହିଲେ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ସତ୍ତ୍ଵ ଚକ୍ଷୁଷ୍ଠଃ ।  
 ମୋର retirement ରେ ମୁଁ ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ମୋ ଜ୍ଞାନରେ ଶୁଣିବା ନାହିଁ, ହେଲେ ଏବେ ଶୁଣୁରୁ  
 ସେ ଶତ ନାହିଁ ସାମଣୀ କହିଲେ । ମନେପଡେ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ  
 ନିଶ୍ଚୟାଶରେ ମୋ ସମାଜ ସମାଜରେ ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ନାହିଁ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା APCR- I ଓ ଶାଠ୍ୟା Champy  
 ଜ୍ଞାନରେ ଶୁଣୁରୁଲୁଛି, ସାମଣୀ କି ଦୁଇଥାଣି ହୋଇଲେ  
 black board ରେ ଓ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 କେବେ ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ହୋଇଲୁ । ମୁଁ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ସାମଣୀ କି  
 କଥା କହିବା ଓ ମୋ ସମାଜ ସମାଜରେ ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ଆଲୋଚନା । ତା ଶୁଣୁରୁ ସାମଣୀ ସୁଖ୍ୟ ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ସୁଖ୍ୟ ହୋଇଲେ ଦୁଇଥାଣି କହିଲୁ । ମୋ ମନେ କିଛି  
 ଶାଠ୍ୟା ରେ ମୋ ମାନସ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ନିଶ୍ଚୟ ସୁଖ୍ୟ ହୋଇଲେ ଦୁଇଥାଣି କହି ଦୁଇଥାଣି ସମାଜ  
 ମନେ । ସାମଣୀ କି ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା student  
 ମାନେ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ମନେ ମନେ କହିଲେ କହିଲେ, ମୁଁ Rout ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ପାଠ୍ୟ ପଠିଲୁ ସାମଣୀ କି 2 ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଦୁଇ ଶୁଣୁରୁ ସାମଣୀ  
 ସାମଣୀ କି ଦୁଶ୍ୟ ରେ କେବେ କାହାଣୀ ସାମଣୀ କି ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ଶାଠ୍ୟା କି ଶାଠ୍ୟା । ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା କି  
 2 "ଶୁଣ" ର ଦେହାତ୍ମ୍ୟ ହୋଇଥିଲା ସାମଣୀ ସାମଣୀ ହୋଇଥିଲା  
 ଶୁଣୁରୁ ସାମଣୀ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା କି ଶାଠ୍ୟା ।  
 ସାମଣୀ କି ମୋ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା 2 operation theatre  
 ରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ମୋ ସାମଣୀ କି ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ଶାଠ୍ୟା, ଓ ଶାଠ୍ୟା କଥା ମନେ ପଡେ । ମନେ ମନେ ଦୁଇ  
 ଶାଠ୍ୟା ସାମଣୀ ଓ ମୋ ଶାଠ୍ୟା କି ହେଲେ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା  
 ସାମଣୀ କି ଶାଠ୍ୟା ମୋ ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ।  
 ଶାଠ୍ୟା school ଶାଠ୍ୟା, Budh 2 school 2 ସାମଣୀ  
 ଶାଠ୍ୟା ସାମଣୀ କି ମୋ ନାହିଁ କଥା ଶାଠ୍ୟା ଶାଠ୍ୟା -

ଦୁଃଖ ଯେ ପୁତ୍ରପୂଜା ଯେତେ ମୁଁ ଦେଖୁଛି ସାମଗ୍ରୀ  
 ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଓକା ପୁତ୍ରପୂଜା, ମାଧ୍ୟମ ସେ ଦୁଃଖ କୁ ସହିଗାରି  
 ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣରୁ ଶୁଣି ପୁତ୍ରପୂଜାରେ । ଏକ ହାତକୁ ସାତ ଏକ  
 ଦୁଃଖ ଦେଖି ମାଧ୍ୟମ କୁଁ ଚାହୁଁ ଏକାନ୍ତରେ ପୁତ୍ରପୂଜାରେ.  
 ହୃଦୟ କାହିଁକି ଏକେ ନିଶ୍ଚିତ? ସବୁଠାରୁ ବଡ଼ କଥା ସାମଗ୍ରୀ  
 ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କୁ ଧ୍ୟାନରେ ମନୋନିବେଶ ଦେଇ କାହିଁ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣରେ  
 ଏକ ଶକ୍ତି ମଧ୍ୟ ହୃଦୟରେ କହିଗାହିଲୁ, ଜୈନାହିଁ ଚେମ୍ପା  
 କଥା ପଢ଼ିଲୁ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କହିଲୁ " ଶୁଣ କହୁ ଶୁଣ  
 ବିକା କାଣ କହୁଲୁ, ; ଶୁଣ କହୁଲୁ ମାନେ କହୁଲୁ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ  
 ଶୁଣ କହୁଲୁ Shubhanwar ଯେ ଲାଭ କଲୁଲୁ ?  
 ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କହୁଲୁ ଦାନ ଶାନ୍ତି ସେବାରେ, ଶାନ୍ତି ମଧ୍ୟ ଶାନ୍ତି.  
 ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଚେମ୍ପାରେ ଏକ ଚେମ୍ପାରେ ଯେ  
 ଦେଖା ହୋଇଥିଲା ଓ ଏ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କହୁଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ସମସ୍ତେ କୁଁ କୁଁ କହିଲେଲୁଲୁ । ମନେକରି ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ସମଗ୍ରୀରେ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଓ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 କହିଲୁ କହୁଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଓ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ  
 ସମସ୍ତେ କହୁଲୁ କହୁଲୁ ନିଶ୍ଚିତ । \* ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କହୁଲୁ କହିଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ।  
 ଏକ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କହୁଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ । ଏକ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 "ସାମଗ୍ରୀରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ"

ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ... ଏକ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ କହୁଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ।

\* ଶାନ୍ତିରେ କହୁଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ, ଦେଖୁ ଦେଖୁଲୁଲୁ  
 ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ, ଶାନ୍ତିରେ କହୁଲୁ... ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ, ଶାନ୍ତିରେ କହୁଲୁ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ, ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ  
 ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାନ୍ତିରେ

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### **ON THE SAID DEMISE OF MY REVERENT TEACHER ROUT SIR**

He [Dr(Prof) Ratnakar Rout]was my benevolent teacher , philosopher and guide. As teacher he has taught me in classroom, as philosopher taught me lessons of human philosophy during evening walk (alone he & me) and as guide has shown me the way I should walk in my life.

He has a noble and multifarious personality. I remember his teachings. He comes the classroom and starts...Good Morning ladies & gentlemen. Starts telling the stories. At last declares” I have told the stories, telling the stories in due course of time I have completed your “Information System & Service” chapter one, two and three.”Thank you.Meaning, he was not a spoon feeder. He drives in the ocean of knowledge and declares drinks as much you are thirsty.

He was the pioneer in establishing the Department of Library& Information Science and dragging it from BLISc to MPhil in LISc & Ph D in LISc.in Jyotivhar, Burla ,Which has earned the name and fame in India and abroad. His knowledge and ability has been glorified by his thousands and thousands of students.He has feed many because he not only has taught his students but also searched job for them. Many have also blessed to fetch jobs in higher posts also.

He was not only a professor but was a people facilitator .He was in the post of people representatives like an administrator for some time of NAC Burla when there was a constitutional vacancy. This indicates his multifarious personality.

All his students are his family members. I personally was closely associated with him like a family member. We have gone here and there, gone for evening walk in and outside the campus. I have taken food with him in his residents not like a guest but like a member of his family for so many times. All these scenes strike in my mind many a time. But I was far away from him and there were no face to face contact with him for a long period .Telepathically I remembering him for a week and got the message of his passing away , gave me a great shock.

There are many occasions and happening but time and space are limited to write.

I PAY MY HOMAGE AND DEEP SENCE OF GRATITUDE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND PRAY BEFORE GOD FOR THE SOUL TO BE REST IN PEACE. Again Pray the God to give courage and strength to his family members to bear the irreparable loss.

**(Rajendra Prasad Mahakur)**

**Rudra prasad Behera**  
Assistant Librarian  
HKM State Library, Bhubaneswar



### TRIBUTE TO MY BELOVED SIR PROF R.K.ROUT

Prof. Ratnakar Rout, the jewel of the Library movement in Odisha is no more. I know him as a great teacher, organiser, planner, art lover. He was man of versatile nature. During my BLIS, I came across the extempore teacher. His classes were very lively with the story of his experiences and humor. He was my guide both in MLIS and PhD. As he was my guide for two times he had knew me personally. Due to my misfortune, I couldn't complete my PhD work. There are many memories with him. During my BLIS, I was assigned a seminar topic on "Library movement in Odisha". When I was presenting my topic, he whispered something to Sahoo Sir. After the seminar, he called me to his chamber. My fault was that I had followed the book written by him. But nowhere in my presentation had I quoted him. Instead of embarrassing me in the seminar hall he suggested me that you should always acknowledge the person whom you are quoting. Since then I came very closely to him. He was always giving the examples of his meritorious students of previous years to the next batch students to motivate them. I still remember the name "Jayanta Misra" who was appointed in ONGC. He was frequently referring the name in the class and was telling us that you have chosen very good profession and we can also achieve such good positions in life. During the last part of his service, he had once visited the HKM State Library, Bhubaneswar and advocated a new theory for storage problem i.e Dead stock for unused books and Active stock for used books. Lastly Sir, we are missing you. You will be remembered in the history of Library movement in Odisha. Rest in peace.

**(Rudra Prasad Behera )**

**Dr Sada Bihari Sahu**

Asst.General Manager, SIDBI  
Lucknow(U.P)



### **A TRIBUTE TO MY BELOVED TEACHER PROF. (DR.) RATNAKAR ROUT**

Time flies with the passage of time and few events and personality of few people remain in one's mind forever. One such event was my association with Department of Library & Information Science (DLIS), Sambalpur University and teachers & staffs of this Department. It seems just I have passed my BLISc from Department of Library & Information Science (DLIS), Sambalpur University. During this period, a long 27 years have been passed. After passing my Bachelor in Science (B.Sc) in Physics Hons, I enrolled in BLISc in 1990 to the world of books and library and I came across Dr. Ratnakar Rout (Rout Sir) who was Head of the Department of DLIS and other teachers there. From the first day to till date I have a special regard, affection, love and respect for Rout Sir. He was always positive and motivational. One can feel a positive aura and warm in his association. At that point of time, he was one of the few selected Professor in Library & Information Science and we were lucky and blessed to have him with us. A very fantastic personality with humor, smiling face, pleasing behavior, a tall figure, full of knowledge in various subjects or areas apart from expert in Library and Information, poetic, sometimes dramatize; always have a feeling of self-satisfaction, a dreamer, an innovator etc. Really, a complete man with all qualities.

Really, I had a fabulous, well enjoyed, learned and memorable student life in DLISSU in my career. That is because of my all teachers including Rout Sir and friends studying in BLISc. Actually, I had spent considerable time with my beloved sir since 1990 to 1995 as I got a chance to study my BLISc, MLISc and M.Phil course from DLISSU and after passing out from the department also. We had a good relationship and well contacted with Rout Sir till the day he passed away.

During BLISc, we enjoyed his company in class room, discussion, in picnic and study tour. He is totally a different person who tries to enjoy the life most whatever situation one has to pass through. Sometimes philosophical, sometimes poetic and friendly. In picnic, he used to say – see how the mountain is looking, stream is moving, birds are chirping, beauty of nature etc. Sada, sit and enjoy the beauty and feel the calmness. Sometimes he used to sing beautiful poem in Odia relating to the nature and beauty. Really, I like his view and thought and feel like a friend who share everything without any hesitation. Apart from praising the beauty of nature, he is a very simple person in his choice of food. Always said, why not have a regular picnic with zeera

or lemon rice, dalma (Odia cuisine with mixture of vegetables and dal), Tomato Khatta etc which cost Rs.10/- or Rs.15/- per meal. Keeping in mind his wish and interest, we had made such mini picnic during these periods and all teachers and taught enjoyed a lot. At the completion of BLIS course, I got a job in Govt. of Odisha and when he knew this news he called me back and told “Sada, you are lucky to have a job before completing the course and you are away from pain of unemployment, so big congratulations to you and enjoy your life in the fullest form without giving a single rupee from your salary to your parents”. After listening his view, first I was surprised what sir is talking about. Can a senior person say like this? But after returning to hostel and giving a thought, I realize that what my sir wanted to convey. Probably, he wanted to say that this moment of life may not come to life again, so do enjoy the life in the fullest form so that one day I cannot repent for this.

Another incident which I thoroughly enjoyed is that when sir given a task to celebrate Saraswati Puja in our department with the instruction that we do not have much fund/money to decorate Puja Pandal in Department. Actually, sir used to put in various experimentation to bring out the leadership quality one has. I still remember, we took the challenges and with the help of two friends, we decorated Saraswati Puja Pandal in the department with painting flower pot, borrowing some sarees from friends for decoration and unimaginably, the cost of expenditure was only Rs.70/-. I think that was lowest cost ever spend in decorating puja. The whole night hard work for decoration was fruitful and he was so happy with our result and congratulate us with praise worthy words and said “Innovation” come out with sincere effort and when one ready to take the risk and give a serious thought to the circumstance and situation.

After the class, sometimes we visit to Rout Sir house in the evening in the Jyoti vihar and have a cup of tea or snacks with a discussion start with library science to political, economic, entertainment, sports, poetry and everything in this world. He had a vast knowledge on various subjects and also share his experience of University days, school days and days he spends in foreign countries for various professional activities. At that time listening to the foreign countries name excited me a lot and make a dream in my mind that if I will do good in our studies I may reach that level or at least a foreign country which a day dream for me. He always talked about Prof. Lancaster, one of the eminent Library and Information Professional during his discussion. These stories and discussion create a dream in my mind to be a good library professional in life which I feel he put the seed in my mind to germinate knowingly or unknowingly. Thank you very much sir for the initiative you made in my mind and thought.

During MLIS also, I had a fond memory with Rout Sir. Understanding with sir continue thereafter. He used to say- Do not write Mahabharat, Ramayan, Babar or Akbar in your answer sheets. Write to the point what is asked for and try to conclude the answer with your own conclusion not what is written in book. I want your views and understanding. Since, I understood his like of writing, I used to follow the same and score highest mark in his papers. Sir always said, do not read too much because reading too much take away the innovation power and original thought process of a student. So, read less and think more. If someone hear his words, he will certainly have said what a fool way of teaching from an eminent Professor. But, sir you

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are always right in your thought and believe. During Seminar, also you had the same views and always put various topics to experiment and explore the possibility of new knowledge and thought. Truly, you are a visionary who knows how to create an excellent professional from the root. I successfully completed my MLIS course with first class first position with record breaking marks. Thank you very much sir for your grooming and constant love and affection. When I was going to leave the campus after completing my MLIS, I gifted you a small pen stand and a pen for a token of love and affection. When I reached at your house to deliver the gift, you told me that “Sada, there is no need of a gift” to show your love, you will be always in my heart and my blessings are with you. Then I told “Sir, it is a token love and when you sit in your study table and write something, you will remember me”, that’s why I have given you this pen stand and pen. Further, every year I used to send Teacher’s Day card and New Year Card which you received happily and sometimes gave a call.

Again, in 1994, because of your initiative and continuous effort, the first time in the history of DLISSU started M.Phil in Library & Information Science and your motivation made me to enroll in this course. Probably, it is first time in Odisha or eastern India that M.Phil course in Library and Information Science was started in Sambalpur University. Hats off to you sir for your leadership quality and constant efforts. During this period, we made a study tour to INSDOC (Now NISCAIR), New Delhi and did a short-term course in CDS/ISIS there. Thank you very much sir for giving a chance to be the first batch of M.Phil course from DLISSU. Sir, you were not happy with me when I returned back from study tour two days before as I had some personal work. Further, due to shortage of attendance in Class (Below 75%), you did not allow me to appear my second /final semester of M.Phil. I had requested you several times to allow me to appear the final examination. But, you were very firm in your decision. I was also as strong as you in mind to complete my M.Phil. With continuous efforts, interaction with Chairman, PG Council, at last you agreed and allow me to appear the final examination. This is first time in the history of DLISSU that for a single student separate examination was conducted for M.Phil. Thank you very much sir, from core of my heart, because of you only I could complete my M. Phil course and stood first class first.

After completion of my M. Phil course, I got the job of Asst. Librarian in University College of Engineering(UCE), Burla [Now VSS University of Science and Technology] and used to come department and sir’s house frequently for interaction and discussion.

I left UCE and joined Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi in 1996, then we had hardly any physical interaction. However, you always told over phone to enroll for Ph.D. under your supervision and it could not be fulfilled because of location difference and may be lack of my interest. Thereafter, we had a very few interaction and at last we met at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Medical College (SGPGI), Lucknow probably in 2003/2004 where you came for a professional event. You were so happy to meet me and told me that “Sada- do send me a Lucknow Chudidar/ Kurta Pyjama (Chikan kari) with Prof. Satyanarayan, Dept of LIS, Lucknow University who is coming to Sambalpur University next month”. As per your wish, I had sent a beautiful Kurta Pyjama with Prof. Satyanaryan to you and after receiving the same you

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immediately gave me a call and told “Sada- it is really a beautiful Kurta Pyjama and I am looking like a “Lucknow Nawab” in Jyoti Vihar. It shows how you are satisfied with small things and give a feeling to other that I am happy and satisfied. Really, this character a few people have and you are one of them. Gift cannot be stay forever but few pleasing words and satisfaction remain in mind forever and it is priceless.

Sir, you always want me to come to teaching profession. I used to say how can I move to teaching profession since I am getting more than Professor scale in monetary form apart from other benefits. You used to argue, money is not everything in life. Teaching is a noble profession and it is a profession where you can pass on your knowledge to others and feel satisfaction by giving the same. Keeping in mind your wish and to engage myself in teaching I start associated with IGNOU as an Academic Counselor for its BLIS and MLIS course. Sir, I have been associated with IGNOU since 1999 and doing the same with much interest and enthusiasm. Really, it is great experience and happy in engage in teaching, evaluating, taking seminar, giving talk in Gyanvani- the radio programme as resource person, supervising the MLIS students in their research/project work etc. Thank you very much sir for encouraging me to be a part of teaching stream.

Sir, when I received the news that our beloved teacher is no more Feb. 15, 2018 in whatsapp, I was shocked and I cannot believe and speechless that you are no more with us. Death is inevitable and it comes to everybody life one day. One cannot escape from this. I am happy that you have lived life like a king and enjoyed life in the fullest form and contributed immensely for the growth and development of Library & Information Science Education in Odisha and build the career of thousands of LIS professional. Your name will be written in golden letter in the history of DLISSU and LIS Education in Odisha. Being a pioneer in introducing M.Phil course in Library & Information Science, foundation or initiative to introduce Alumni of DLISSU, starting the MLIS and BLIS course in Sambalpur University, creating a LIS Laboratory etc, you will be remembered forever among us. You are a true leader, visionary, orator, teacher, researcher, poet, innovator, motivator and many more other qualities, which hardly seen in a person. Your parents rightly chosen your name as “Ratnakar” / who wear the Jewel. You are truly a Ratna /Jewel to the Library Profession and to your family also. Jewel is forever. Death cannot vanish your works and take you from us. You will be always alive in our heart and mind and in the knowledge you have passed on to us. Sir, receive my heartfelt regards and salute, sincere thanks for your teaching, guidance, motivation and experience you share with me. Wish, may the departed soul rest in peace. Sir, pl. with us forever wherever you are and keep on blessings from the other world. Om Shanti! Om Shanti! Om Shanti!

Your obedient student,

Sada

Lucknow

**(Dr Sada Bihari Sahu)**



**Dr. Sanjaya Mishra**

Student, BLIS (1988-89)

DLIS, Sambalpur University, Burla

Education Specialist

E-learning at Commonwealth of Learning

Burnaby, British Columbia



### WHAT PROF. ROUT MEANT TO ME?

For a student, teacher is always the incarnation of God. He is the ultimate truth. But, Prof. Ratnakar Rout was different. He taught me to question the notion of ‘truth’. I first met Prof. Rout as a student in the Department of Library and Information Science (LIS) at the Sambalpur University (SU), Burla. Like many other students, I was also impressed by his style of teaching. His story-telling approach to teaching always made difficult concepts simple. He would never teach facts, rather he taught how to decipher facts and find information yourself. As a student of information science, what he taught is so relevant in today’s digital world. At the end of his class, some of my friend would be asking “what did we learnt today?” For me each of his class ended with so many questions that forced me to go to the magnificent library building of SU and spend time with books in the reference section. He was an innovator, who started an information science laboratory at SU, probably for the first time in the country. Much later, the UGC Curriculum Committee adopted the lab concept as part of the standard LIS curriculum. Prof. Rout was not a typical teacher; he was actually a seller of ‘dreams’ – that you can make yours. It was an opportunity, a privilege, a chance for me to be one of his many students. Remembering those days as student, I feel humbled and energized every day. What I learnt from him is – if you question, you show existence of life. Being passive is a choice, but action makes all the difference in the world!

**(Sanjaya Mishra)**

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### IN MEMORY OF LATE PROF R K ROUT

"Take a Bucket of Water, if you ask for a Tumbler of Water"

Now readers of this article would be curious at the above title. The above was the comment of Professor Ratnakar Rout after the end of his guest lecture to us in 1986 when I was studying B. Lib. & Inf. Sc. in Utkal University.

Prof. Rout was invited for a guest lecturer in 1986 by the Deptt. of Library & Information Science, Utkal University on "Reference Service". After the end of his lecture, he told us "If you ask for a tumbler of water, I will provide you a bucket of water". The message behind the above comment was if we would ask him any question on Reference Service, he would have given us vast information about Reference Service. This proves how much knowledgeable he was for which he could say so with confidence.

The above first interaction made me his fan. Thereafter I remained in touch with him. I used to meet him at his Andarpur residence whenever he was coming to Cuttack.

After passing M. Lib. & Inf. Sc., I met him at his Cuttack residence and requested him to be my Ph.D. Guide. He was then busy in construction of his 1st floor. He politely refused to be my Guide as he would not have time to guide me.

He was my Subject Expert in my interview in OPSC for my selection to the post of Gazetted Librarian in Harekrushna Mahtab State Library at Bhubaneswar. On the day of my interview, I saw him as the Subject Expert. I replied to all his questions in the interview. After my joining, when he came to the State Library, he told me that he had selected me with high expectation and hence I should not down him. I have remembered this and I try my level best to discharge my duties with my utmost ability.

Once during discussion, he told me that he was selecting his students in the interviews wherever he was going as Subject Expert. His opinion was, if he would not select his students for jobs, then who would select them. He used to say his students were like his children and hence he should rehabilitate them as their father. This rare quality I am yet to see with any other teacher.

He was quite sincere and serious to his study as well as research. Once when I had been to his quarter at Jyoti Vihar, Burla, he was then on study leave for his D.Litt. Degree. He showed me

the key of the his chamber of the Deptt. hung in the wall. The key became rusted completely. I couldn't understand it. He explained that he had not gone to his chamber for the last two years for his D.Litt. research for which the key was rusted. It indicates his sincerity and involvement to his study.

Once I took his advice for computerization of our State Library and the data entry thereto. He gave me an instant suggestion and advised me to start data entry of the books of the last five years and the books which were of 10 years or more be treated as "Inactive or Dormant Collection".

He was mentally stubborn and had confidence to face any difficult situation in life. He was placed under suspension for the alleged scam in purchase of computers for the Sambalpur University Library. He fought against his alleged involvement in the scam up to Supreme Court and won at last and recovered all his dues from the Government.

He lost his dear daughter "Debjani" at early age despite treating her in one of the best hospital of India. He named his Andarpur House as "Debjani" after her sad demise.

He came to the Library Profession very late as he was working as Laboratory Demonstrator in Ravenshaw College for few years before joining the job of Librarian.

He had attended all the functions and occasions whenever invited. His presence of mind was quite sharp and he was witty also. He never looked disturbed at any unfavourable situation.

A number of students have got Ph.D. and D. Litt. Degrees under his guidance and some are placed in high positions. But he had never demanded anything from them. He has helped and forgotten them.

He was one of the galaxy in the Library Profession. He never expressed pride of his knowledge, calibre and achievements.

Really our Library Profession has lost such a renowned person and also his advice for ever. We are missing him a lot and feeling his absence.

May his departed soul rest in peace and God give his beloved soul mate to bear patience to withstand his permanent absence.

**(Santosh Kumar Chatterjee)**

**Dr. Santosh Kumar Satapathy.**

Librarian.

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**MY DEAR ROUT SIR**

*“Teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, caliber, and future of an individual. If the people remember me as a good teacher, that will be the biggest honour for me”.*

**- A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**

I was very much shocked and saddened to hear the sudden and unexpected demise of my dear Rout Sir- Professor (Dr.) Ratnakar Rout, Heads of the Department of Library and Information Science (Retired), Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Burla, Odisha. It is a great loss for me, for his family as well as for the LIS fraternity all over the country.

I have been associated with Rout Sir since last 25 years. In the year 1992 when I joined MLISc. in Sambalpur University, I was fortunate to meet Rout Sir. In a matter of just a few days, I was attracted towards his lovable and amazing personality. He was very kind enough to supervise my MLISc. and M.Phil. (First Batch) dissertation works.

Teacher is a person in our life who provides many important things together with the good education. He is the real mentor in a student's life. One such teacher was Rout Sir. He was the best teacher and administrator I have ever known in my life. He was an excellent teacher, meticulous researcher and a dynamic supervisor.

Rout Sir was very soft spoken, gentle, helpful, optimistic and championed the cause of development of Library and Information Science Education in Odisha. He was very dedicated to his work ethics and profession. In spite of busy schedule, he could afford enough time to his students. He was always ready to listen to the problems of the students. I greatly admire him as an impartial judge. He is not only a favourite teacher of mine, but also to all his students.

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I cannot express in words what he has done for me. I have found guidance, discipline and love, everything in Rout Sir. Rout Sir was not only my Professor, he was also my friend, philosopher and guide.

I was also a family member of Rout Sir during my university education. I have received heartfelt affection from Madam, Budha (son of Sir) and Late Budhee (daughter of Sir).

In a nutshell, Rout Sir was a lovable personality and a good teacher and will be remembered by all forever. We lost him, but he will remain in our heart forever as a role model. May God rest his soul in peace!

You guided me  
When I was lost  
You supported me  
When I was weak  
You have enlightened me  
All through my life  
I miss you Sir...

**(Dr. Santosh Kumar Satapathy)**

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### **An Eulogy to Prof. R.K. Rout: Lost Guidance**

Every class of Rout Sir started from a story which he ultimately linked to reference services and other related concepts, making the concepts clearer. Only for this reason even after two decades, these concepts and terms are still etched permanently in my brain.

Sir's contribution in the creation of Workshop in the department of Library and Information Science and in fact the department itself in Sambalpur University is and will be immensely acknowledged by each and every one who is somehow connected with the Department.

Anyone and everyone with even the smallest doubts were welcome into his house with open doors and hearts anytime and every time. Neither Rout sir nor madam allowed anyone to step out of their house, without eating something, no matter how big the group of student may be.

He was my supervisor for MLIS dissertation. In the first class, I can remember, words were coming out from his mouth spontaneously without any break like Wikipedia. This spontaneous flow of words and ideas, as I later realised, helped me finalise a topic for dissertation, with clearly demarcated chapters and sub-chapters and other related information.

The most amazing aspect of his personality was the bond he created with his students. He was always there to support us and provide help of every kind. The personal touch he added in every student-teacher relationship he maintained was brightly visible in his keenness to know about the family of every student. He regularly used to ask about the wellbeing of each and every member of my family and after my marriage my in-laws were added to that list too. About twenty years ago my husband had once, during a meet, offered him a tender coconut. To my astonishment, in a telephonic conversation between sir and me just two years ago, he recalled the incident. These small but thoughtful impressions on his side are what made a student-teacher relation, so lively and long. His legacy has and will always compel me to follow his path.

My heart reaches out to pay homage to the departed soul and my deepest condolences to the grieving family, friends and his big student mass for the great loss. May his soul rest in eternal peace...

(Dr Sasmita Brahma)

**Shiba Bhue**  
Kendriya Vidyalaya

***The Founder .....***

Express my Deepest Condolence on Sad demise of Prof. R K Rout Sir .It's a great loss to LIS fraternity and DLIS SU .He was not only a Founding teacher member of DLIS SU but Contributed immensely for Library Information Science In Odisha . Happy to be a student of him during Last year of his retirement. I recollect some of his messages to us given below which reflect his Philosophy of Life skill, humanism and value based Life.

***"Study is not only Classroom Learning but the entire Campus and Environment of Jyotivihar is Yours Real Learning in student Life, All ways Stay Happy and Learn about life even from daily wage workers and all section of society and over come so called problems".***



***(Memory: While receiving Prize from Him)***

***Rest his Soul in Peace***

Shiba Bhue  
Kendriya Vidyalaya

**Sunil Kumar Mahato**  
Librarian, Rose Bud School  
268/A,G.T.Road  
Liluah, Howarh-711204



There are so many things I feel but am unable to put into words, because the impact you had on my life is one that is unable to be comprehended.

I know I am not the only life you touched, and this can be seen through the overwhelming response to your unexpected passing. You were an incredible educator, an honorable mentor only comes along once in a lifetime. You molded futures. You molded people who are passionate about what they do. You embodied the phrase “do it with a passion or don’t do it at all.” Although I still am unable to truly wrap my mind around it; you are in Heaven now, looking down on all of us, and I know we all want to make you proud of who you taught us to be. Because of you, we will “never skip steps,” we will reach out to others, we will never see blue and white striped shirts as just blue and white striped shirts, we will do everything with the passion you had for teaching Library Science, and we will always, always, keep your presence alive. I will never forget you. May God bless you, and may you rest in peace.

We will never forget the image of his gentle and bright face. May God give his eternal rest and the family the strength to bear the great pain.

**(Sunil Kumar Mahato)**



डा. सुशांत कुमार पाठी

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## END OF AN ERA FOR A DYNAMIC LIS TEACHER: A MEMOIR

Suprised and shocked to hear the news of passing away of our beloved Rout Sir. In recalling the past memory it is always in my my mind when I took admission to B. Lib Sc. little late in the year 1995 when Prof Ratnakar Rout was the Head of the Dept. of Library Science. In this year with the stupendous effort of Prof Rout the department got the new building (the existing one) and we all the then students were actively involved during the shifting of the department. How can I forget the humour when Rout Sir was taking the class. He was the guide, friend and a great motivator to all the students. During my Mlib Sc period he was at his peak and became the Chairman, PG Council the second most powerful person in the university system and introduced the earn while learning for the LIS students. His innovative methods like Garden reading, worshipping goddess Saraswati in the form of Book during the Saraswati puja and most importantly giving the status of only second university in the country after Madrass University i.e. UGC DRS-SAP Tag for the PG Dept. of Library Science, Sambalpur University during that period for which a huge grant was offered to the department by the UGC. Out of the grant he modernized the entire department workshop and made the digital computer laboratory. I remember when I passed my M.Lib Sc and was preparing for UGC NET, he assigned me a topic for a course curricula of another university. I completed the same within a month and submitted to him. I learnt from him how to write and prepare a course material during that period. He was known for his excellent teaching and expertise in his field of Library Science all over the country. Whenever I was attending the conferences/ seminars the LIS professionals were praising his intellect. When I joined the Sambalpur University as an Information Scientist in 2002 (during that time many of the present library stalwarts were struggling to get a good job) he invited me on many occasions as a Resource Person for his workshops/ seminars for which I cannot forget his contribution in flourishing my career. Personally in my difficult phase of life during the service break up in Sambalpur University in early career having no fault of me (because of the university authority), he always encouraged me a lot and said “ Don’t be disheartened this is not the end of the world” which reminds me how brave Rout Sir was. However, I have also seen his bad phase of life and service career during the last couple of years before retiring. During that time also he was not disheartened and encouraged me before leaving the Sambalpur University. After his retirement I was not very much in touch with him but when I joined IIT Bhubaneswar in 2010 he contacted me over phone, we talked for a long time then he invited me to visit the DREAMS library, Cuttack sometime but I could not visit him personally and received the sad news of Prof. R.K.Rout passing away with an end of an era for a dynamic Library Science Teacher. On his 14<sup>th</sup> day of sad demise I regret the loss of an astounding personality and pay my homage RIP

(Dr. Sushanta Kumar Pathy)

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**PROF. ROUT SIR: IN MY MEMOIR**

During my long relations with Rout Sir and his family, I have many incidents which still remain alive in my memory. I have learnt a lot of things from Sir which have been helpful for me in my professional and personal life. Within busy schedule of service and home affairs, I was not able to contact Sir during the last month of his life which has remained a matter of regret for me. However, I feel his presence very often, particularly when I meet with my old LIS friends. We all discuss a lot of events related to Sir. Now also it is hard to believe for me that Sir is no more. I am planning to write something since the date of his sad demise, but do not find suitable words to write something. However, now I want to share something about Sir who was a multifaceted personality.

I remember the first day when I met Sir in the LIS department during my MLIS in the year 1994. I was quite impressed by his personality, humorous teaching method, depth knowledge on LIS and affection towards LIS profession, students and his effort towards the development of LIS department of Sambalpur University, Odisha. Gradually, I felt myself as a family member of Rout Sir due to the affection of Sir, Madam and Budha and Budhi. Almost every day I used to visit his house and spent some time there with Sir and Madam in the evening. We were discussing many things related to libraries, LIS department and profession and Madam used to serve us many dishes of food and tea. I was fortunate enough to do my MLIS dissertation and PhD under his supervision. I have tried to share my feeling under various aspects about his personality.

First, as a visionary of LIS : Sir had a special vision for the development of Libraries and LIS profession. He was always thinking about new things. Over 23 year of my professional carrier, I have met more than hundred reputed professionals/teachers of LIS, but I have never seen that talent among them. Due to this quality, Sir was able to set a “Workshop”, “an open air Reading Room”, “an insignia” in the department. He was also providing personal document delivery service of British Council Library; and documents to the faculty members and research scholars of the Sambalpur University. When I went to him for my MLIS dissertation topic, he told me to do a new thing i.e., to prepare AV materials for Library education. At that time in BLIS, MLIS syllabus, we had papers on great libraries of world but students were found to be disinterested on those papers. So, he suggested preparing AV materials on this so that students could have a real life experience by seeing the visual along with description. Also he suggested me to prepare the same on Central Library of Sambalpur University so that user education service can be provided to users of the university. Although initially I hesitated to work on this, but due to his motivation and guidance, I successfully did the dissertation by taking help of photographers, making slides, taking help of artists for background sound etc. Really it was a new experience for me and now when I took an initiative for a TV display board at NIT, Raipur to make users informed about library, I realized the importance of MLIS dissertation.

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Secondly, confident on his work and had faith on student's capability: I remember that after completion of my PhD work I went to Sir for submission of the thesis. Sir told that the University had changed the rule and he had been instructed to give a foreign examiners list consisting of experts of European countries only. So he instructed me to go to Central library and collect the name and address of some LIS experts of European countries who had worked on Human Resource Planning and management in libraries which were related to my topic. Accordingly, I gave the list to Sir and he submitted that list in the University. After one year, when we were walking together I asked Sir about the status of my PhD thesis. He said, "How can I know, I even do not know to whom and which country it has been sent." Then I asked 'if the foreign examiner ask for any changes in the thesis, what will I do?'. He told that the examiner may ask for revision and even he could reject also if your work was not found good. I got disheartened but later on realised that he was confident on his supervision and had faith on my work and capability and that was the reason he was not at all worry about my PhD work and the examiner. Later on I along with the guidance of Sir published many papers and he never checked the paper in detail.

Thirdly, a teacher of great sincerity and patience: Sir once asked me to publish a book on "Library Classification" to make the subject easy for students. He told me to complete it within a specific time and we did it. I remember the book was printed at ISKON Temple Press, Bhubaneswar and we used to sit for more than 10 hours, continuously taking our meal and snacks in the Temple. Sometimes I felt bored to sit there but Sir had patience and sat with the computer operator for typing, proof reading and cover design. This book on Library Classification is found to be useful by students even today.

Fourthly, a person with fatherly affection towards students: Both Sir and Madam were very much affectionate towards students. Many students used to visit Sir's house and both Sir and Madam always treat them as their children. I remember one incidence which I share many times with others. During my PhD work, I used to stay in Sir's house for late study at night. Before going to sleep, Sir used to come to me and instruct me to use mosquito net and coil. I have been a late riser always. During that time, every day Sir came to my bed in the morning after his morning walk with two cups of tea to wake me up for tea. This was a regular work for him. I always felt ashamed that Sir was preparing tea for me. This shows that what kind of affectionate person he was.

There are many more incidents, which will remain as memories in mind forever. I feel myself blessed and privileged for having been in contact with such a great teacher, visionary, down to earth person who had dedicated his life for development of LIS department, profession and professionals.

I along with my family members express my deepest tribute and condolence on the sad demise of Rout Sir.

**(Dr S.K. Satpathy)**

**Special Issue in memory of Prof R. K. Rout, February 2018**

Baisakhi Majumdar  
Librarian  
City College of Commerce & Business Administration  
13, Surya Sen Street  
Kolkata-700012



I am truly sorry to hear of the loss of my teacher (Dr. R.K.Rout). Please accept my condolences and may my prayer help comfort you and hasten the journey of his soul to heaven.

(Baisakhi Majumdar)

listforum - orissa

**Dr Y Ganesh**

Librarian, Andaman College  
Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Island



### **PROF. R.K.ROUT: AN AFFECTIONATE PERSON**

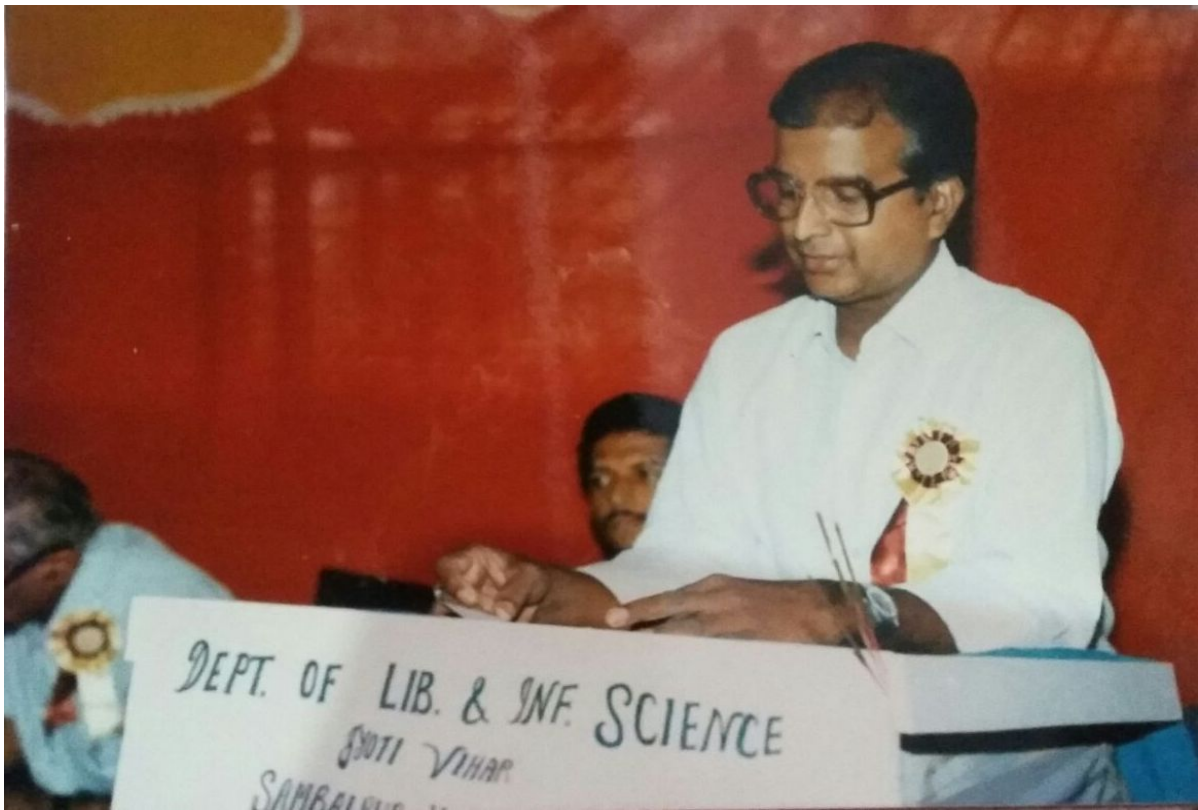
Prof R.K.Rout was my supervisor in PhD under G.G.University, Bilaspur(C.G). He was very much affectionate person. I was doing my PhD on part time basis staying far away at Andaman and Nicobar Island. But I had regular contact with Rout Sir over phone. He was always advising me not to be tense for PhD study, rather he used to send me literature for my research. I remember that whenever I had to come Sambalpur or Bilaspur he used to continuously guide me like where I reached, where I have to stay, how to make journey in train, how to reach at destination, where to take food etc and etc. He helped me a lot, without which it was not possible for me to complete my PhD work.

I along with my family pray GOD for him and his family. May his soul rest in peace

**(Dr Y.Ganesh)**

# PHOTOGRAPHS

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## ଗ୍ରହାଗାର ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ପ୍ରାଧ୍ୟାପକଙ୍କ ବିୟୋଗରେ ଶୋକସଭା



ଟାଙ୍ଗୀ, ୧୭/୧୨ : ଶିକ୍ଷାବିତ୍ ତଥା ଗ୍ରହାଗାର ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ବିଭାଗର ବରିଷ୍ଠ ପ୍ରାଧ୍ୟାପକ ଡ. ରଞ୍ଜକର ରାଉତଙ୍କ ବିୟୋଗରେ ତ୍ରିମ୍ବସ ସ୍ଵୟଂ ଶାସିତ ବୈଷୟିକ ଶିକ୍ଷାନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ଶୋକ ପ୍ରକାଶ ପାଇଛି । ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ଶନିବାର ଶିକ୍ଷାନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ପରିସରସ୍ଥ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ପ୍ରଶାସନିକ ଭବନ ନିକଟରେ ଆୟୋଜିତ ଶୋକସଭାରେ ପ୍ରଶାସନିକ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ ବଳରାମ କର ପୌରୋହିତ୍ୟ କରିଥିଲେ । ସ୍ଵର୍ଗତ ଆତ୍ମାର ସଦ୍‌ଗତି କାମନା କରି ୨ମିନିଟ ନିରବ ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା କରାଯାଇଥିଲା । ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ ଡ. ଶରତ କୁମାର ମିଶ୍ର, କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ପାଠାଗାର 'ଜ୍ଞାନ ଉଦ୍ୟାନ'ର ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଗ୍ରହାଗାରିକ ଦିଲ୍ଲୀପ କୁମାର ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ, ସହକାରୀ

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଗ୍ରହାଗାରିକ ହିମାଂଶୁ ଭୂଷଣ କର, ସହକାରୀ ଗ୍ରହାଗାରିକ ସୁଶାନ୍ତ କୁମାର ସେନାପତି, ପଲିଟେକନିକ ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ ପ୍ରାଧ୍ୟାପକ ଲୋକନାଥ ବେହେରା, ଗ୍ରହାଗାରିକ ପବିତ୍ର କୁମାର ନାୟକ, ନର୍ସ କଲେଜ ସହକାରୀ ଗ୍ରହାଗାରିକ ଇଲାମୁଦ୍ରା ପଣ୍ଡା, ସୌଦାମିନୀ ଶତପଥୀଙ୍କ ସମେତ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ବିଭାଗର ବିଭାଗୀୟ ମୁଖ୍ୟ, ଅଧ୍ୟାପକ, ଅଧ୍ୟାପିକା ସ୍ଵର୍ଗତ ରାଉତଙ୍କ ସ୍ମୃତିଚାରଣ କରିଥିଲେ । ଡ. ରାଉତ କିଛିବର୍ଷ ଧରି 'ତ୍ରିମ୍ବସ'ରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟଗ୍ରହାଗାରିକ ଭାବରେ ଦାୟିତ୍ଵ ନିର୍ବାହ କରିବା ସହ ଗ୍ରହାଗାରର ଆଧୁନିକୀକରଣ କରିଥିଲେ ।



## **A prayer of Remembrance... for a life well lived...**



For someone who has enlightened our lives with his vision and thoughts. A good heart has stopped beating. A good soul ascended to heaven.

My Father **Dr. Ratnakar Rout** of Andarpur, Kalyaninagar, Cuttack, Retd. Professor, Sambalpur University and Ex-Vice Chairman NAC Burla, Left for his heavenly abode on **15th February 2018 at 1.40 p.m.** after leaving a successful life of 73 years.

In order to show our gratitude and pray for the departed soul we request you to be kindly present  
At-Matrubhawan, Sri Aurobindo Marg,  
Near Samrat Cinema, Cuttack - 13.

**On 28th February 2018 6.00 p.m.**

Rabindra Kumar Rout, Debasish Rout,  
Andarpur, Kalyaninagar, Cuttack - 13  
**Cell : +91-94372 08645 / +91-98192 00110**

## Acknowledgements

On 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 1:00 P.M, our beloved Sir Professor R K Rout passed away at his Cuttack residence. After returning from normal office work, when we all came to know about this, for a while we were speechless. Then this news spread all over India through various social media and over phones. LIS teachers, professionals and students from various parts of the country send condolence messages through these social media and LIS forums. The LIS department of Sambalpur University, DREAMS, Cuttack, Odisha Library Academy, Bhubaneswar, Pt S L Sharma Library of Pt Ravi Shankar Shukla University, Raipur organized condolence meetings. Some of his students namely Prof. Bulu Maharana, Dr Debraj Meher, Mr Rudra Prasad Behera, Dr Kamal Lochan Jena, Dr Bibhu Prasad Panda, Dr Sada Bihari Sahoo and many others suggested to publish an online special issue on memoir collection on Prof R K Rout by "lisforum\_orissa" on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of his sad demise. A number of senior professors, professionals and students of Prof Rout have shared their memoirs as a token of gratitude. We are highly thankful to them. We are highly grateful to Prof B K Choudhury, who has taken a lot of initiative to send messages regarding this issue in spite of illness.

This special issue is an anthology of memoirs. It contains 36 memoirs: 08 from friends and colleagues of Prof Rout; 28 from his students and professionals; and 04 condolence messages from different organizations/associations. These are arranged in alphabetical order of the name of the contributors.

The views expressed in the memoirs are purely personal of the contributors. The compilers job is limited to benign collection and compilation only

We acknowledge thankfully and reverentially the contribution of all the personages for this special issue.

### Compilers

Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy  
Dr Debraj Meher