

Doctor with a different HEART.....



Medicine is one of the oldest professions in the world practiced in different forms in different lands. Doctor's are regarded as a life giver and therefore they enjoys utmost respect and recognition around the world. A very thought of the doctor gives us the image of a person clad in spotless white coat or apron with a stethoscope either placed around the neck or kept folded in one of the pockets diagnosing diseases and ailments and prescribing medicines to treat patients.

Our country has given some of the best doctors to the world who have dedicated their entire life not only for the treatment of their

patients but also for the social work they have done and thereby left an inerasable mark on the sands of time.

We take a sneak peek into the life of one of the leading Cardio Thoracic Surgeon of Gujarat who has not only reached the zenith of his career as a surgeon but has also made a strong impact on the society by his dedication towards mankind. Millions know him as one of the best heart surgeon but very few know him as a person, as a human & as a doctor with a very different heart.

Yes, we are talking about **Dr. Bhupesh D. Shah**, leading Cardio Thoracic Surgeon who has successfully treated patients from all corners of our country and abroad. All the treated patients and their families who know him, regard him as God for his approach of going out of the way to help the person in need.

Born in the year 1966 in Balasinor, Gujarat, Dr. Bhupesh did his primary education from there itself.

His father Shri Dhirajlal Shah

Dr. Bhupesh D. Shah
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was a cloth merchant and his mother, a house wife. After his secondary education, he shifted to Ahmedabad. Right from the beginning he was distinct and apart from the mob. Bright in studies, bold and aggressive, energetic and good sportsman but above all were his traits of honesty, sincerity and humanity which he inherited from his father. The hidden softness and emotions which

a dream of reaching out to the needy and helping them in every possible way. During his internship at Chaloda, a rural place in Gujarat, he saw the real face of India. Patients who use to come to PHC center were so poor that they could not afford even the medicines prescribed. They worked hard to make the ends meet. It had a great impact on the mind of Dr. Bhupesh. He recalls that in those days he had very little money and therefore could not help everyone in need. He took support from likeminded people to help others. This is where the foundation of his commitment towards society was laid.

In 1988 he opened a drug bank at L.G.Hospital where he used to collect

blends well in his personality is what he inherited from his mother. But childhood is always a short season and that too passed away. There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in.

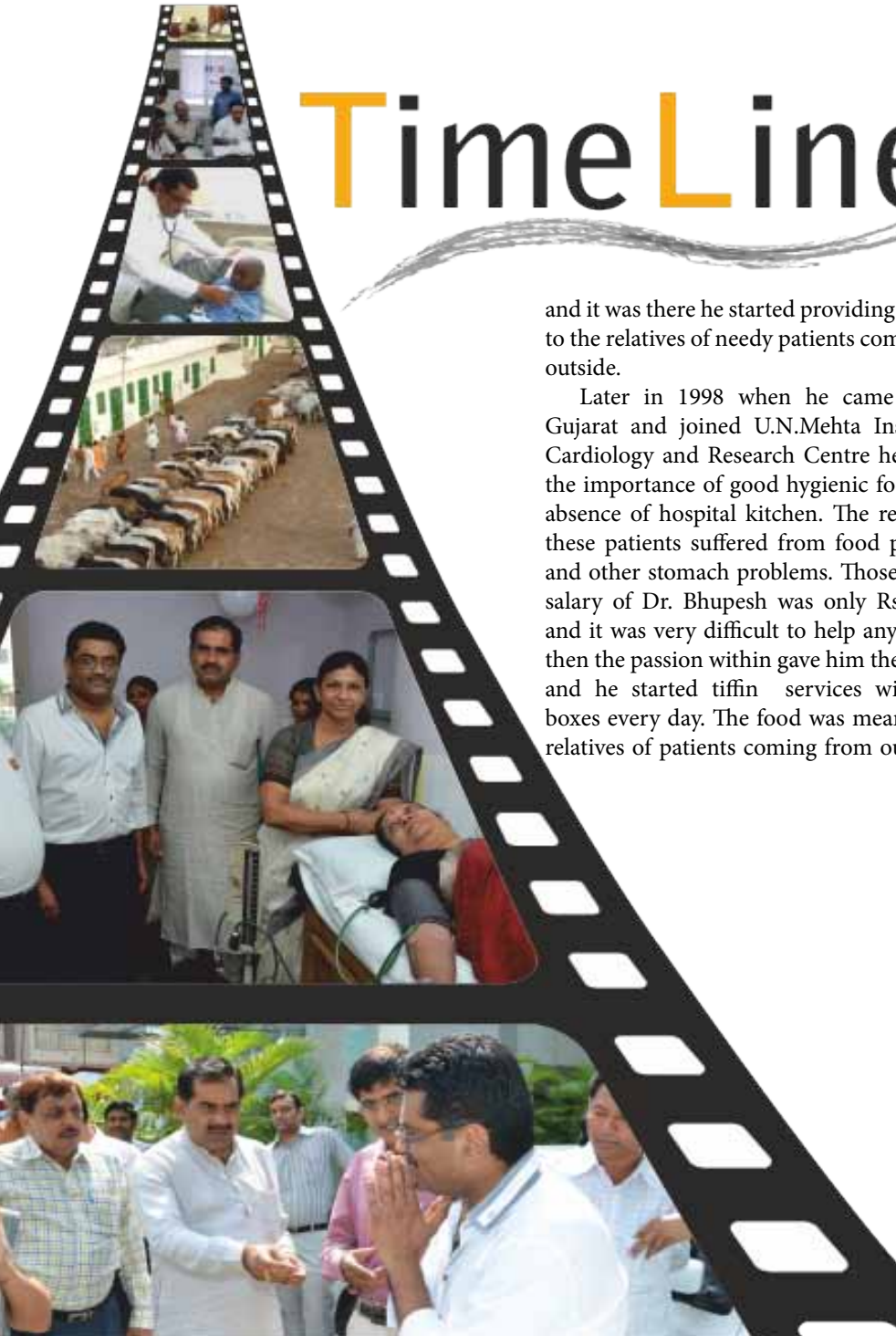
Dr. Bhupesh spent 17 years in hostel away from his family but deep within his heart he was always close to them. His leadership qualities and the passion to stand for the truth, come what may, made him very popular during his MBBS days and during his MS he became a very good student leader.

But this is not what he was born for. He was moved and touched everytime he saw somebody in trouble, pain & suffering. Right from the time of his residency he carried

medicines from all likeminded people to help needy patients with free medicines. The journey that he started alone was joined by lots of people, trusts & NGO's and it became a caravan. The only thing he had in mind was that no poor patients should be deprived of treatment in the absence of money and this



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and it was there he started providing free food to the relatives of needy patients coming from outside.

Later in 1998 when he came back to Gujarat and joined U.N.Mehta Institute of Cardiology and Research Centre he realized the importance of good hygienic food in the absence of hospital kitchen. The relatives of these patients suffered from food poisoning and other stomach problems. Those days the salary of Dr. Bhupesh was only Rs.15,000/- and it was very difficult to help anybody but then the passion within gave him the strength and he started tiffin services with seven boxes every day. The food was meant for the relatives of patients coming from outside for

thought made him a man with a very different aura.

In 1993 during the days of DNB in Mumbai Dr. Bhupesh was associated with Tadav Friends Group where he was busy helping patient coming from Gujarat for treatment. His hostel was opposite the hospital kitchen

the treatment of their loved ones. His act of generosity expanded from helping the poor and needy patients to providing good quality food to their relatives.

Today when you look back, a small act of generosity started in 1998 has become a movement where there are many people



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involved into it now. Today Dr. Bhupesh provides 70 tiffin boxes every day without fail, without any interruption and without any delay in services. Though Dr. Bhupesh does not work with U.N.Mehta Institute any more but the dinner is provided free from his end everyday. Dr. Bhupesh says that these people are so poor, they can hardly afford treatment. Spending Rs 35-55 for a meal outside the Hospital campus seems like blasphemy to them. The other side of this social act is more interesting. He has outsourced the preparation of these tiffin's to the families needing extra funds for the education of their kids or for other basic needs. There are six families preparing food everyday. Previously Dr. Bhupesh use to collect funds to pay them for their work but since his practice has expanded he funds the entire project himself.

Dr Bhupesh has found out other avenues of charity to reach out to the needy people in the society. For the visually and physically challenged kids & old age homes he sends utility kits which contains soaps, toothpaste, oil, socks, scarves, light clothing warm clothes and other daily utility items. He donates Rs.1,00,000/- every year for the education of needy children to Shri Hansh Bodhi Maharaj Sahib Trust.

His charity is not restricted only for humans. Dr. Bhupesh is also a very well known name in the Cow Rescue Campaign where he rescues the innocent animal from slaughter

houses and give them new life, good food and healthy environment. He donates 80,000 kgs of vegetables every year to a Gowshala at Odhav in Ahmedabad.

When asked, are you satisfied..... Dr. Bhupesh answers that he has not achieved what he wants. He has not yet reached to all and there are millions who need help and support.

Peeping into a life of a leading cardio thoracic surgeon who has to his credit more than 12,000 surgeries which include open heart surgeries, closed heart surgeries, complex thoracic surgeries and what not, you get a rainbow feeling full of all colours. Each colour has its own radiance and brightness. Each colour stands strong and visible but together they make a rainbow which is complete in itself.

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