

In Memory of
Dr Hari Vasudevan

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It is most unfortunate that Dr Hari Vasudevan passed away, becoming a victim of Covid-19 and heart attack. His unexpected death is a great loss to the academic community in India. Dr Hari Vasudevan was a well-known academic specializing in world history and political science, focusing on the former Soviet Union, post-Soviet Russia, Central Asia, China as well as India.

Dr Hari Vasudevan was closely associated with various universities and academic institutions in India and abroad. He has written several books and has authored over 300 research papers and articles which are well known to teachers and research students focusing on Russia and Central Asia. I have

contributed my paper for his edited book.

I had the pleasure and satisfaction of being closely associated with Dr Hari Vasudevan during the last around four decades, both of us having academic interest on the former Soviet Union, post-Soviet Russia and Central Asia. Both of us have participated in several national and international seminars, conferences and academic programs in Universities and research institutes in New Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai.

It was my pleasure to invite Dr Hari Vasudevan to present a paper and participate in seminars organized by our Center for Central Eurasian Studies (formerly known as Center

for Soviet Studies) in Mumbai. The presentation by Dr Hari Vasudevan was highly appreciated by participants of the seminar from Mumbai University for his in-depth analysis, linking theories to contemporary developments, policy decisions related to Russia, Central Asia and relations with India.

I am fortunate and it was my pleasure that I talked to Dr Hari Vasudevan as he called me on mobile about two months back before he suffered from the Covid-19 virus. We discussed several issues concerning contemporary political and economic developments in Russia, including problems of nationalities in Siberia, Central Asia, Ukraine and relations with China and Europe.

In the aftermath of his passing away, on the occasion of a video-conference arranged by the Center for Central Eurasian Studies of the University of Mumbai, the Director of the Center Prof Sanjay Deshpande rightly proposed one-minute silence as a mark of respect for the late Dr. Hari Vasudevan which is highly appreciable.

I wholeheartedly Wish and Pray God that the Soul of late Dr Hari Vasudevan may Rest in Peace.

