



# THE BPPIMT - NEWSLETTER

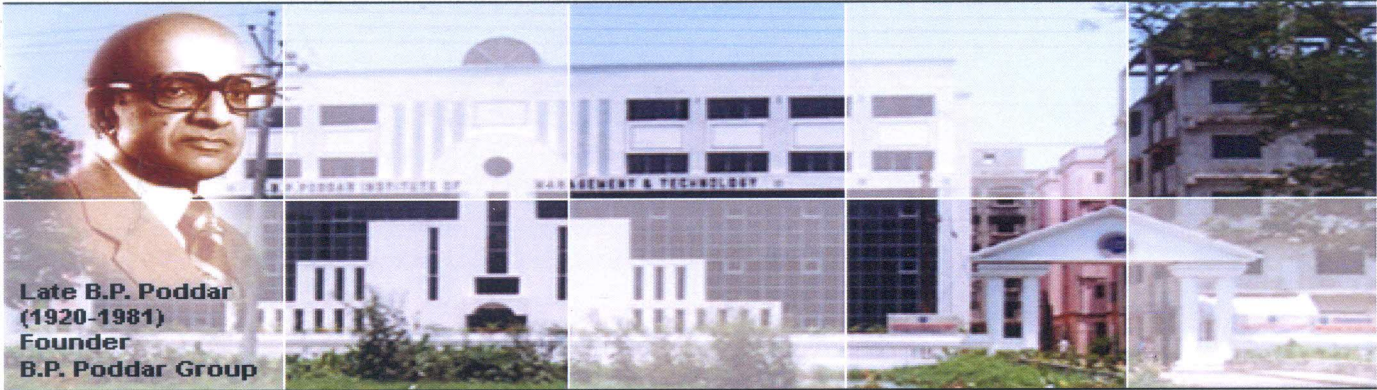
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## Remembering Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee on his 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday



**Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee**, born on 29 June 1864, was a prolific Bengali educator and the second Indian Vice Chancellor of the University of Calcutta for four consecutive two-year terms (1906–1914) and a fifth two-year term (1921–23). Perhaps the most emphatic figure of Indian education, he was a man of great personality, high self-respect, courage and towering administrative ability. He became the first student to be awarded a dual degree (MA in Mathematics and Physical Science) from Calcutta University and received the prestigious Premchand-Roychand scholarship. As Ashutosh wanted to be financially independent, he studied law and took his B.L. degree from the City College, Calcutta and won the 'Tagore Law Gold Medal' for three successive years: 1884, 1885 and 1886.

In 1894, Ashutosh was the recipient of the 'Doctor of Law' and was appointed as the Tagore Law Professor in 1897 in the Calcutta University.

He was responsible for the foundation of the Bengal Technical Institute in 1906 and the Calcutta University, College of Science in 1914. The Calcutta Mathematical Society was also founded by Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee in 1908 and he served as the founder president of the Society during 1908 to 1923. He was the first president of the inaugural session of the Indian Science Congress in 1914. The Ashutosh College was also founded under his stewardship in 1916, when he was Vice-chancellor of University of Calcutta.

Ashutosh Mookerjee was honoured by the British Crown with the title of 'Sir'; he was a member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, a fellow of the Edinburgh Royal Society, and fellow of Royal Astronomical Society, Member of the Royal Irish Academy, Member of the Mathematical Societies of London, Edinburgh, Paris, Palermo and New York.

For his intransigence attitude with British Govt., high self-respect, courage and academic integrity, he was known as the "Tiger of Bengal". Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee died on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1924 at Patna; Bihar. On the auspicious occasion of his 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, the family of BPPIMT pays homage and respect to this great son of Bengal.

