

A Life That Matters

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The recent and highly successful Mongolian ICRT-07 meeting made me ponder on how beautiful life is and how people can touch other lives, by doing something without counting the cost, and giving your all without any expectations in return. I thought the success of this meeting was simply because of these reasons. Let me share this piece, which I think is most appropriate for this occasion (from an unknown author) and I quote:

“Ready or not, someday it will come to an end.
There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours or days.
All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else.
Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.
Your grudges, resentments, frustrations and jealousies will finally disappear.
So, too, your hopes, ambitions, plans, and to-do lists will expire.
The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.”

It won't matter where you came from, or on what side of the tracks you lived at the end. It won't matter whether you are beautiful or brilliant. Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant. So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured? What will matter is not what you bought, but what you built. Not what you got, but what you gave. What will matter is not your success, but your significance. What will matter is not what you learned, but what you taught. Your compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered others to emulate your example. What will matter is not your competence, but your character. What will matter is not how many people you knew, but how many will feel a lasting loss when you are gone. What will matter is how long you will be remembered; by whom and for what. Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident. It is not a matter of circumstance but choice.

To the august lecturers who unselfishly gave their most precious time to disseminate NM knowledge; to those who all have started and tasted NM practice and at the midlife of their careers who likewise shared their experiences and lastly to the younger group of NM who are just beginning in the specialty who came with their posters and took time to listen and learn, many thanks.

To the leaders and organizers, you have shown the meaning of character doing your best to make everything pleasant in Ulaanbaatar. Your genuine sincerity and utmost care for every detail did not go unnoticed and it will long be remembered.

Lastly this meeting proved that we can turn an event into a grand one by little acts of kindness which when combined

together, can create a ripple which will touch the hardest of hearts. It was really not a matter of circumstance but choice of these NM people to be different! I hope the enthusiasm will continue to flow so the WRPTC will soon have a place where it rightfully deserves.

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