

*Life-Sketch :*

Brigadier Rasamay Ganguly, VSM MB (CAL) FRCS (ENG)



Brigadier Rasamay Ganguly was born on the 1st of May, 1918 in a village in the district of Barisal, in the undivided province of Bengal. He received his schooling at Cooch-Bihar, passed the Intermediate Science Examination from Dacca and Joined Medical College at Calcutta. He graduated in 1942 with a brilliant academic record and a long list of honours, prizes and medals from the University.

After spending two years as a Resident house Surgeon in the Medical College

Hospital, he joined the Indian Army Medical Corps in January 1944, and soon went overseas to serve in various Hospital Units in Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. On his return to India he served as a surgical specialist in different Military Hospitals and then moved to Kashmir with a mobile surgical unit, to gain first hand experience in handling a vast number of battle casualties under the most adverse conditions during the Pakistani invasion of 1947. In 1950 he was awarded the D.G.A.F.M.S medal by the Ministry of Defence.

Brigadier Ganguly joined the Armed Forces Medical College as a Reader in Surgery in 1953, won the Hallett Prize from the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1954, and became a Fellow of the same college in 1956. In 1960, he went to Australia as a Senior Fellow under the Colombo Plan, for specialised training in Reconstructive Surgery. In 1965, he became Associate Professor of Surgery of Armed Forces Medical College, Senior Adviser in Surgery for Southern Military Command and Head of the Reconstructive Surgery Unit at Command Hospital, Poona.

For his outstanding work in the treatment and rehabilitation of battle casualties, he was awarded, in 1969, the Vishist Seva Medal by the President of India. In 1970, Brigadier Ganguly was deputed to represent India in Washington and in 1971, he went to Melbourne as an Indian Delegate to take an active part in the 5th International Congress of Plastic Surgery. Brigadier Ganguly is now the Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery, Armed Forces Medical College, Poona and the President of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India.

