

## IN APPRECIATION

### A personal note to the family members of Ashok Sharma

**Ashok Sharma**...a sincere friend, a loving husband and a devoted father.

The story of Ashok goes number of years back. I first met Ashok in 2012, in New Delhi, India. He was a man tall in stature with a great personality, unassuming, hardworking and kindhearted.

I, as a member of the 'International Relations Working Group' (IRWG) of APCCA (Asia Pacific Corporate Counsel Alliance), had the privilege of talking with Ashok even before we met in 2012. All such discussions, may be about corporate lawyers or may be about APCCA, mixed with so many things that sincere friends would always talk about.

APCCA, after completing very successful three (3) international conferences, first , second and third conference in 2009 (Singapore, 2010 (Colombo, Sri Lanka) and 2011 (Jakarta, Indonesia), was with the great need to organize the fourth international conference within a member country.

At the same time, the IRWG of APCCA, was in the process of welcoming new member associations from the countries in the Asia Pacific region.

Ashok tremendously worked to incorporate the 'Federation of Indian Corporate Lawyers' (FICL) which was at that time known as "Indian Corporate Counsel Association' (Indian CCA) which was the first such association in India. This was a great service Ashok rendered to the corporate lawyers in India and more importantly, to the Indian legal fraternity.

He made a significant contribution in bringing the FICL (Indian CCA) as a member association of APCCA.

More importantly, under the leadership of Ashok, FICL (Indian CCA) hosted the fourth APCCA conference which held in 2012 in New Delhi, India. This conference was a significant milestone in the journey of APCCA. I am sure, it is not necessary to mention about the position of India in the Asia Pacific region.

I, as the President of Association of Corporate Lawyers Sri Lanka (ACL) during the period from 2008 to 2010, was very fortunate to work with Ashok when organizing number of ACL events.

Ashok was a 'brother' to me always.

Ashok's contribution does not stop there. He was a sincere friend and an APCCA leader who was always willing to extend all possible support.

After joining as a member association of APCCA, FICL (Indian CCA), under the leadership of Ashok, organized number of conferences and events and APCCA was invited for all these events. Sincere hospitality was extended to all APCCA representatives at all these events.

Ashok was a senior member of the legal profession in India and a very active member of the profession who contributed immensely to achieve significant milestones. His sudden demise is an irreparable loss to APCCA, FICL, to all corporate lawyers, to the legal profession and to India.

I am very sad, but very much privileged to share this personal note with all family members of Ashok, my sincere friend.

May his soul rest in peace.

In accordance with my belief as a Buddhist, I sincerely wish that he may attain supreme 'NIRVANA', which eliminates the birth, life and death.

**Ravi Thilakawardana** (from Sri Lanka)  
Former President of ACL Sri Lanka (2008 – 2010)  
Former Secretary of APCCA (2016 – 2021)

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