



Afflatus Creations

Vol. 2, No. 1

Jan - Mar, 2025

Page: 09

In Memory of Dr. D.C. Chambial

A feeling of loneliness creeps in when someone you have known for over 25 years is suddenly no longer part of this world. As I reflect on our time together, memories unfold vividly, each a testament to our bond.

I first met Dr. Chambial in 1996 when we were both invited to Gangtok on World Poetry Day to share our poems. Staying as neighbors in the same hotel, we frequently shared meals, walked to the poetry reading venue together, and explored the picturesque beauty of Gangtok. Those moments marked the beginning of a friendship that grew deeper over the years.

His addressing me as 'Dear Khandelwal Ji' evolved over the years to 'Rajiv Ji,' then 'Dear Friend,' and finally, on May 3, 2023, 'Dear Brother.' This journey of words mirrored the deepening of mutual respect and affection we shared.

Dr. Chambial always made time for my creative pursuits despite his many commitments. He reviewed my four-book set for children with remarkable attention to detail, offering constructive feedback and mentoring me with his advice: "Please read these poems carefully as if they are not yours, but you have to edit them." His words have left an impression on my approach to writing and editing. This habit, casually suggested by him, remains with me even today.

Dr. Chambial was a support in my creative journey, always ready to lend a helping hand. His encouragement enriched my life in countless ways. His absence leaves a void that words can scarcely describe, but the lessons he imparted will remain with me forever.

Rajiv Khandelwal

Awarded Poet & Novelist

Email: rajiv@afflatuscreations.com, rajivk92@gmail.com