



## Footprints on the Sands of Time: In Memory of Dr Hemant Patel, AOSR Honorary Secretary 18 Nov 1970- 7 July 2025

*Collated & Curated By Evelyn Ho, AOSR Past President & Gaurang Raval, AOSR Emerging Trends Committee Member on behalf of the AOSR community, 21 July 2025*

The AOSR was shocked and sad to hear of Dr Hemant Patel's passing. Hemant was our AOSR Honorary Secretary 2025-2027. On the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025, he had just officiated and provided the welcome address at AsiaSafe's MRI Safety Call For Action Series Part 3 webinar. That was his last public appearance for the AOSR. Hear his message during the webinar at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y\\_skF6dPQQA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_skF6dPQQA).



Hemant was a tireless champion for the advancement of Radiology, a passionate advocate of the AOSR and a highly respected colleague. He joined the AOSR council in 2021 and was appointed as Chair to the then AOSR Education Committee. From 2023-2025, he held the position of the Honorary Treasurer. He was also the Past President (2019) of the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA) and subsequently the IRIA International Liaison Officer. He believed in building strong connections amongst the radiology community, whether locally (India), within the AOSR or internationally.

## Hemant Patel in Action in Asia-Oceania and Beyond: Snapshots of Memories



Group photo with the AOSR General Assembly Delegates at the Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR) 2025 in Chennai, India. It is without doubt that the very hardworking host organizing committee had Hemant closely working with them to ensure this was an AOCR like no-other, and that all the delegates would take home memories to last a life time.



Hemant was soft spoken but always animated when articulating a point. These were captured at the new executive council meeting in January 2025, at the AOCR2025.



Then AOSR President, Noriyuki Tomiyama after the Opening Ceremony of the AOCR2025 in Chennai, India with some of the IRIA leadership. Hemant is on the far right.





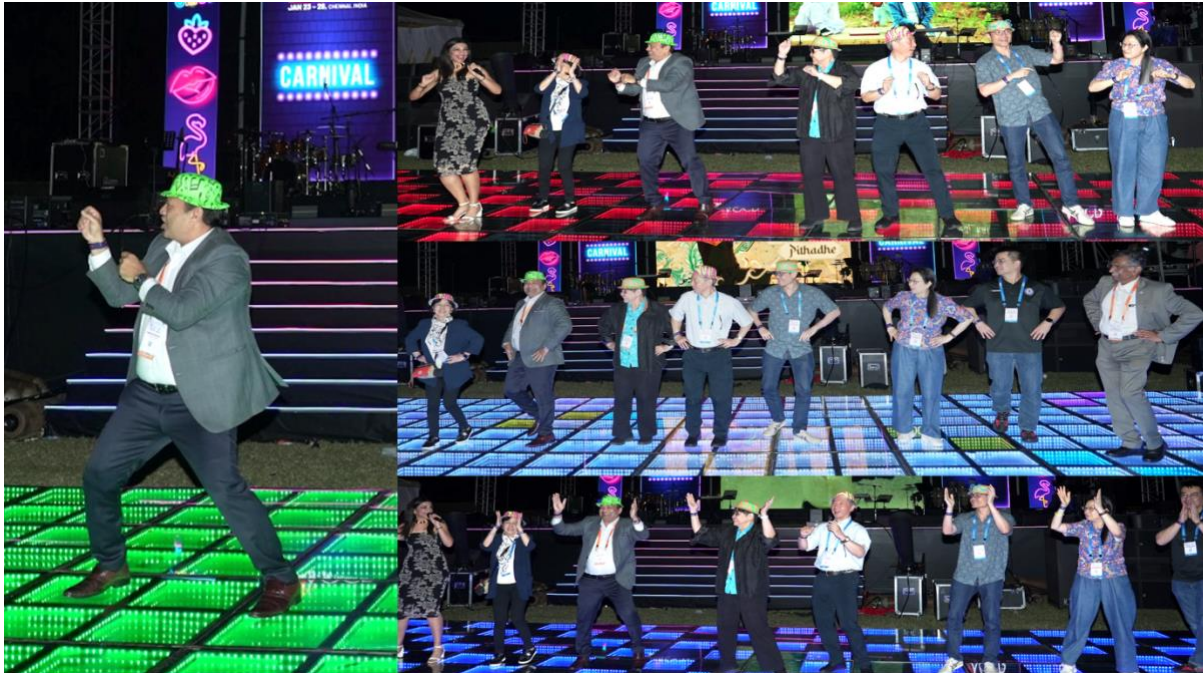
Hemant believed in building bridges and during his time in the AOSR, he strengthened the IRIA-AOSR bond.



Hemant delivers a heartfelt message as AOSR Honorary Secretary after the AOSR Presidential handover at the AOCR2025.



The many facets of Hemant Patel – here having a quick ‘we-fie’ (group selfie) with delegates of the AOCR2025 during an evening event.



At the final AOCR2025 evening extravaganza -Neon Carnival on 25 Jan 2025 - Hemant was ‘rocking it’ with other AOSR officials, reflecting his fun-loving nature.

“Dr Hemant Patel was a deeply respected and beloved member of our radiology community. His tireless dedication to advancing academic radiology, his commitment to education and innovation, and his warm collegial spirit left a lasting impact across the region. His absence will be profoundly felt by all who had the privilege of working with him.”

***Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon, AOSR President 2025-2027***

“I am deeply saddened by the passing of Dr Hemant Patel. He is a remarkable leader, and his vision, strength, and commitment will be remembered with great respect and gratitude. I cannot forget his warm smile.”

***Noriyuki Tomiyama, Immediate Past President, AOSR 2025-2027***

“We have always admired Dr Hemant Patel's courage and ability to handle anything. He was such an outstanding leader. We will never forget the valuable lessons we learned from him. After working closely with Dr Hemant Patel for the AOSR, we firmly believe he will continue to live on through us and give us unbelievable strength. He is so connected to us that he has become a part of us.”

***Yi-Hong Chou & Chiu Mei Tiu. YH Chou is Director of the AOSOR since 2021 , and an AOSR Past President 2016-2018.***



“Hemant Sir was like a dragon. We were like flies sitting on his back. He used to take us for wild adventures!! During the 8-9 years that I have known Sir, he has been a very inspiring figure to all, always.”

**Gaurang Raval, AOSR Emerging Trends Committee Member since 2021, AOSOR Youth Club 2019 Alumnus**



(L) A treasured photo at the beginnings of Gaurang’s association with Hemant Patel, (centre) Hemant and Gaurang dancing the GARBA, a traditional Gujarati/Indian dance and (R) with Hemant and then Valerie Jackson at the RSNA2019.



“A group photo with Dr Hemant Patel at the AOCR2023's Gala Dinner, Bangkok. A reminder of the wonderful moment Dr Patel shared with all of us, and the Radiological Society of Thailand/Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand members. The Indian delegates had won the Best Traditional Costume for the congress dinner.”

**Wiwatana Tanomkiat, AOCR2023 Scientific Chair and AOSR Congress Committee Co-Chair 2025-2027**

“Dr Hemant Patel Sir was a true visionary and an inspiring leader. He carried the broadest of shoulders upon which several younger radiologists stood, allowing them to see further and rise above the ordinary. His loss is immense, shocking beyond belief and deeply heartbreaking. May his soul rest in peace.”

**Mohammed Shakeebuddin Kashif, AOSR PR & Communications Committee member 2025-2027 and AOSOR YC 2023 Alumnus**



“I am grateful for the opportunity to witness Hemant's drive and dedication to our profession through our work in the AOSR. He was bold and visionary and I saw for myself the deep respect that he commanded from the IRIA community during our brief but meaningful interaction at AOOR in Chennai in January this year. I would never have imagined that would have been the last I saw of him; his passing comes as a setback for me just as for everyone in AOSR. May everyone find comfort in the memories that celebrate his life and the legacy that he has left behind.”

***Cher Heng Tan, AOSR Honorary Treasurer 2025-2027***

“Dr Hemant Patel has been the guiding force of many young radiologists in India and I am one such person. He has been my friend, philosopher and guide - supporting me in every step I take and guiding my entire career. He had this vision of making IRIA the top 5 radiology associations in the world and has been working for the same for the past 10 years. IRIA's international presence over the past few years has been primarily his work and effort. The Shining Light of IRIA is gone, but we promise to fulfil all his dreams and aspirations.”

***L. Murali Krishna, AOOR2025 Organizing Secretary, AOSR PR & Communications Committee Member since 2021, AOSR YC 2015 Alumnus, Past IRIA Secretary-General 2023***



Hemant Patel, standing 3<sup>rd</sup> from left, and Murali Krishna, seated on the right at the signing of the agreement between the AOSR and IRIA Organizing Host of AOOR2025.



“My association with Dr Hemant Patel goes a long way. I knew him before he became active in the IRIA. He was very helpful, loving, caring and always warm towards all and always liked to organise events at home and was very popular among all. He always gave due respect and was cordial. We all know his achievements at a personal, professional and association level. We expected many more things from him but God had other plans. We all are still shocked about his tragic demise. He will always be with us and guiding. Ameen”

**Jignesh Thakker, AOCR2018 Organizing Chair, Past President IRIA 2015**



“I first met Dr Hemant Patel when I joined the AOSR a few years ago. What struck me was the larger than human aura around him! He was always jovial, so happy to interact with anyone who greets him, and ever obliging. He had a razor-sharp intellect and wanted AOSR to grow further and was keen to promote the organisation in India and other countries. I will miss working with him on the Council.”

**Sanjay Jeganathan, Chair of the PR & Communications Committee since 2023.**

"Dr Hemant Patel, knowing me from his neighbouring country (Bangladesh), talked with me at the AOSOR Youth Club program like a family member, discussed on radiology-related issues of my country and gave me valuable advice on my work and career."

**Mir Mahin Ashraf, AOSOR Youth Club 2023 Alumnus.**



The AOSOR Youth Club 2023 group photo with tutors, participants and host represented by Jeong Min Lee, then President of the Korean Society of Radiology and also President, Organizing Committee of KCR2023. Mir Mahin is standing far left.



“I am very sad. Dr Hemant Patel’s demise is a great loss for the IRIA as well as the AOSR. He was an extraordinary, another level type of leader. He would have been a great president for Asia-Oceania.”

**Jeong Min Lee, Co-Chair of AOSR Education & Training Committee 2025-2027 (Past Chair 2023-2025), AOCR2022 Organizing Committee President.**

My association with Dr Hemant Patel began during my radiology residency in Ahmedabad, where his friendliness and enthusiasm for radiology made him a beloved figure.



As a pioneer in MRI and entrepreneurial ventures, he earned recognition within the medical community. As IRIA President, Dr Patel provided exceptional leadership and mentorship, supporting initiatives like Samrakshan, which I introduced in 2019. His vision for India's and Asia-Oceania's prominence in global radiology was inspiring.

Dr Patel worked tirelessly to promote radiology and elevate its status. His sudden passing has left an indelible void in the world of radiology. His legacy will continue to inspire us, and his dedication, vision, and passion for radiology will be cherished and remembered. I fondly recall our interactions and the bond we shared. Rest in peace, dear Dr Patel. Your impact will never be forgotten. Your leadership and mentorship will continue to guide us in the field of radiology.

**Rijo Mathew Choorakuttil, AOSR’s AsiaSafe MRI Safety Ambassador, AsiaSafer (AsiaSafe Committee member since 2021), Founder & 1<sup>st</sup> IRIA National Coordinator for Samrakshan, Founder & IRIA National Coordinator of Preventive Radiology.**



“I was deeply saddened to hear of Dr Hemant Patel’s passing. Since 2021, I had the privilege of working alongside him on the AOSR Executive Council, where his dedication to the radiology profession shone brightly—both in India and across the Asia-Oceania region. Hemant was a true icon in the Indian radiology community, yet he remained remarkably humble and approachable. His warmth and camaraderie drew friends to him, and his hospitality made our experience at AOCR 2025 truly memorable. We will cherish his legacy as a visionary leader and strive to continue his mission of uniting the radiology community both regionally and globally. May you rest in peace, Dr Hemant Patel.”

**Danny HY Cho, AOSR President-Elect 2025-2027**



I first met Dr Hemant Patel at the Chinese Congress of Radiology in November 2019 and soon after that at the RSNA 2019 where he was leading a large Indian delegation for the India Presents that year. He was often spotted with his signature brooch and had a presence with positive vibes he brought wherever he went, always affable, always ready to help. He built so many bridges amongst the radiology community wherever he went. May his legacy live on and inspire everyone to be better versions of themselves.

**Evelyn LM Ho, AOSR Honorary Advisor, Past President, AOSR e-Archives Project Lead, AsiaSafer**



## Leaving Footprints on the Sands of Time

Hemant shared the following poem by Mangal Naseem countless times, during his educational talks in India to inspire all to rise to greater heights through perseverance and resilience. It is reproduced here on a background of navy blue, which was his favourite colour.

### Oh, Dear Bird! Keep Your Courage Up and Keep Flying by Mangal Naseem

परिंदे हौसला कायम उड़ान में रखना  
परिंदे हौसला कायम उड़ान में रखना  
हर इक निगाह तुझी पर है ध्यान में रखना

बुलंदियां तेरी हिम्मत को आजमाएंगी  
परी में जान, नजर आसमान में रखना

हर इम्तिहान पे मंजिल करीब आती है  
हमेशा खुद को किसी इम्तिहान में रखना

तू बोलता है तो मिसरी सी घुलती जाती है  
यही मिठास हमेशा जबान में रखना

उड़ान भर के तेरी और आ रहा है ये  
तू इस परिंदे को अपनी अमान में रखना

Bird, keep your courage up and keep flying  
Every eye is on you, keep that in mind

The heights will test your courage  
Keep life in your wings, keep your eyes (directed) on the sky

With every test the destination comes closer to you  
Always keep putting yourself to a test (during this lifetime)

When you speak, it seems like sugar dissolves in a drink  
Always keep this sweetness in your tongue (when you interact with others)

(Oh God! This bird:) It is flying towards you  
Keep this bird under your protection

The poem gives us a glimpse of this gentleman, a radiologist who was a visionary, mentor, leader and more as evidenced by the outpouring of tributes and messages. It is obvious Dr Hemant Patel had touched and inspired the lives of many in the radiology community in India and abroad. Gone too soon, he will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by the AOSR community.