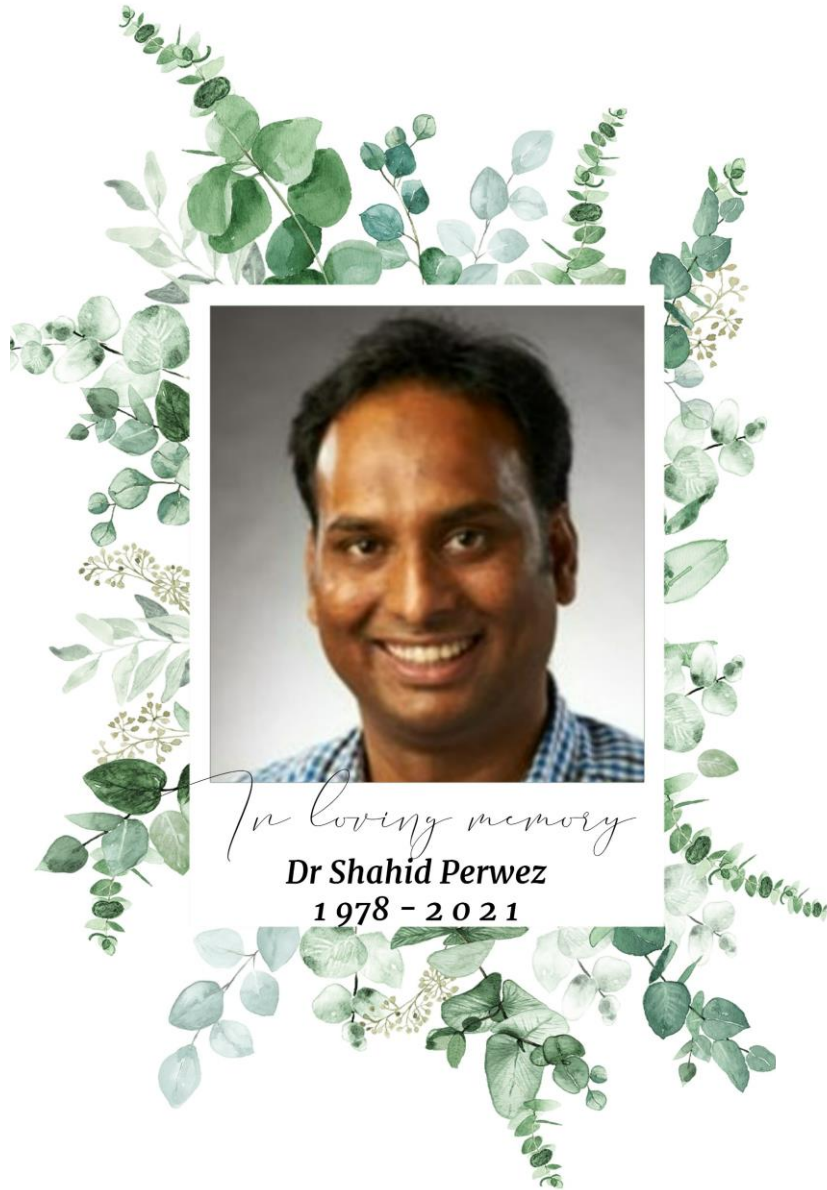


Remembering Shahid



Shahid joined M-CRIL in 2016.

With a PhD in Sociology and Social Anthropology from the University of Edinburgh, and strong recommendations from the University of Bath's Centre for Development Studies, he seemed ideal for the Research Team.

Though, to begin with there were 6 months or more of adjustment as he shifted from academia to development consultancy and adapted his skills and interests to the new fields of financial inclusion and micro/small businesses.

He soon rose to be Senior Vice President, leading and building the Research Team. A highly valued member of the Senior Team at M-CRIL. He would have been pleased to know that from April 2021, he was to be designated Executive Director, Research, to reflect the organisational responsibilities he was already undertaking so effectively.



M-CRIL - incorporating EDA Rural Systems
inclusive microeconomics

This picture epitomises the easy working relationship that I shared with Shahid. Shahid was easy to talk to, had a high EQ and I learnt a lot from him about the sensitivities around field work with excluded people through our numerous project related conversations.

My condolences to dear Neha, Ashaz, Hammad and little Inaaya for their huge loss and my best wishes to them in their life ahead.

Shahid may you rest in peace – you will be missed at M-CRIL.

- Arpita



Words cannot express the loss.

Will always remember Shahid.

A great colleague

– diligent, hard-working, conscientious.

Insightful. Always happy in the field.... Talking.

Team builder, teacher, researcher.

And friend.

Usually with a twinkle in his eyes.

- Frances

A delightful person with a professional, analytical approach to his work, single-minded dedication to development and a wonderful sense of humour.

It was a pleasure to have worked with him. He will be sorely missed at EDA/M-CRIL and also as a friend.

- Sanjay



I have lost one of my best colleagues I have worked with in my professional career; and also lost a very good friend. I think I will be missing him for years to come. My deep condolences to Shahid's family

Rest in peace

- Ashok

Dear Neha, Ashaz, Hammad and Inaaya,

My deepest condolences for your loss and my sympathies are with you in this difficult time.

Shahid was a mentor to me and I will always cherish his teachings that have made me a better person. He was a great man to work with, his enthusiasm and passion motivated all of us who worked with him.

I remember the time we were in Nepal for a project and his commitment towards working for the marginalised people was inspirational.

Shahid made sure that we knew we were appreciated and all of us at M-CRIL, especially the Research team, are truly going to miss him. My prayers and thoughts are with your family. May his soul rest in peace.

- Shreya



Shahid was a remarkable researcher. He was my teacher, mentor and boss. I will kindly remember him for believing in me and shaping me professionally.

I spent 15 days with him in the field last year: he commanded like a leader and cared for like family. With his endearing and lively personality and knowledge of top order, he always set the right tone for every conversation.

My deepest condolences to Shahid's family. I miss hearing their voices on phone calls.

Stay strong kids, we are with you. 😊

Best
- Ratika



Shahid Sir, as I used to call him, was a wonderful human being and a dear mentor to me. Professor James Copestake introduced us at Bath University.

On my first and unfortunately only field trip with Shahid Sir, I was fascinated by his skills of quickly establishing trust and connect with people. On that trip, we shared our AMU and University of Bath anecdotes.

I will always remember him as a thorough professional and a great human being. My condolences to you, your kids, and other family members.

- Umair

It was my pleasure to be acquainted with a thoughtful person like Shahid ji.

I still remember the warmth with which he, Neha, Ashaz and Hammad welcomed me to their home to share the qurbani offering with me during Eid-al Adha.

I will miss the conversations we had about his lovely daughter Inaaya; nothing made him happier than talking about Inaaya.

My fun memories with Shahid ji were of celebrating the various festivals at our office in Gurgaon. As I write this from my room in Jakarta, I remember that my first visit to Indonesia was for a project with him. During the trip, I got to learn from him and see first-hand his passion for empowerment of the underprivileged especially women.

I pray that Neha and the children find the strength to overcome this tragedy.

Much love and care,
- Sana



I fondly remember Shahid Sir guiding me in our field work in Kushinagar U.P and sharing his memories of college days with me.

We ate at road side *dhabas* and used to talk hours with the shopkeepers about their lifestyle.

I am deeply shocked at his untimely demise and pray to god to give his family strength and courage to overcome it.

Rest in Peace Shahid Sir, will miss you.

- Rajesh

I will never forget the warmth of your smile, you will always be in our hearts and memories as you were a wonderful person, and will be greatly missed.

- Pragya



Shahid Bhai,

I was not preordained to write a memorial message for you. I took you for granted. Nothing I write will express the intensity of the vacuum that you have created around us, around your family, around everyone who loved you and whom you have loved.

Will cherish all those wonderful memories with you together, at office, at home, at the office ground level tea stall, on our field trips, family get togethers, winter night barbecues – and the list goes on.

Your voice will echo in our lives throughout.

*May you be blessed with the most beautiful place in Jannah
“Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji’un
Verily we belong to Allah, and truly to Him shall we return”*

- Jitu

Shahid was like a mentor. He shaped my learning and experience, and I am grateful to him for his guidance during my time at M-CRIL. I wish the best for his family, and pray for more strength to them during these tough times.

- Surabhi



Will always remember Shahid for standing out as a gifted conversationalist and for the several free wheeling chats we've had on a wide range of topics. While the void left behind by his passing away will be difficult to come to terms with, I pray Neha and the kids will gather strength to slowly overcome his loss.

Rest in peace, Shahid

- KP (Krishna)

Dear Shahid Bhai

I think of you and remember the innumerable cups of tea, where you would be listening to something from one of us, fag in your hand, with rapt attention, and that sweet smile on your face, when your eyes would light up. I remember the innumerable phone calls we would have, as you were one person I could call anytime and share anything that was bothering me, with the confidence I would feel better at the end of that conversation. And I did, every time.

In you, I have not just lost a very dear friend and a fellow Bihari, but someone who was always there with me as my well-wisher in his professional capacity. I will really miss you whenever I am facing some dilemma and need to talk to someone as trusted as you. Farewell, my Brother.

*With love
- Gaurav*

A unique beautiful soul had left many beautiful memories with us in Myanmar as a great researcher, a professor, a good friend and a mentor.

I was always impressed by the discussions that he made at every business meeting and the vast knowledge he shared about the thematic areas with a great patience and generosity. We, colleagues and friends from Myanmar share our good merits with the departed soul and convey unceasing prayers and love to the beloved family

*Best regards
- Edward*





*"How lucky we are to have something that makes saying
Goodbye so hard"*

Farewell Dear Shahid...