Prof. Derek Gupta

M.B.	Michael B.	Ranke
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Tübingen, Germany

1.2.1928-13.5.1997

MD, FRCP (Edinb), Professor of Paediatrics Professor Derek Gupta passed away on May 13, 1997, in London. He was the former director of the Department for Endocrinological Diagnostics at the University Children's Hospital, Tübingen, Germany, Editor of Neuroendocrinology Letters, and a long-standing member of the Editorial Board of Hormone Research. Prof. Gupta was born into a family of journalists on February 1, 1928, in Calcutta, India, with roots in both traditional Indian culture as well as in Anglo-Saxon conventions. His participation in the struggle for national independence, as a young man, led to his imprisonment, an experience that did not deter him from accepting Prof. R. King's invitation to join his group in London. There, he also worked closely with J.M. Tanner and jointly published several pioneering papers on the development of gonadal and adrenal steroids during childhood. His high reputation led Prof. Jürgen Bierich to urge Dr. Gupta to establish a hormone and experimental laboratory in Tübingen, Germany, in 1969. Until his retirement in 1992, as professor emeritus, his sphere of influence in paediatric endocrinology and, in particular, neuroendocrinology remained international and marked by farsightedness. Derek Gupta will be remembered by his colleagues and friends as an excellent researcher who was an Indian at heart, holding a German professorship with British gentlemanly demeanour. KAU:EH

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