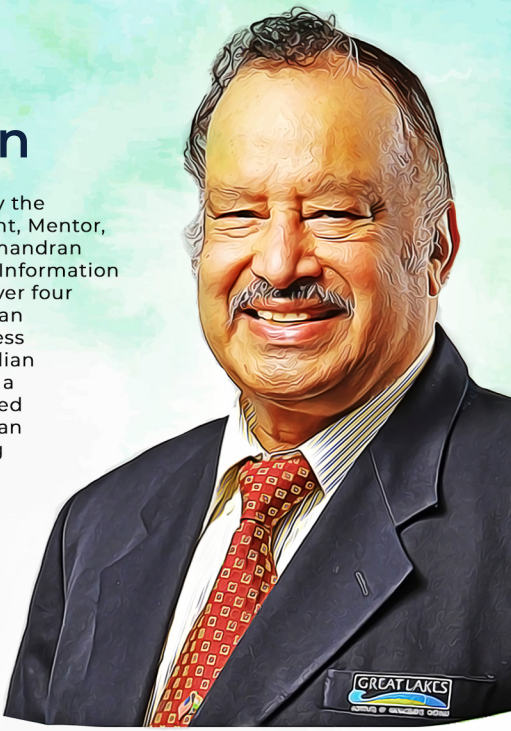


About Dr. Bala V. Balachandran

Dr. Bala V. Balachandran, fondly known and remembered by the Great Lakes Family as Uncle Bala, was a Professor, Consultant, Mentor, Author, Entrepreneur, Life Coach and much more. Dr. Balachandran was a J. L. Kellogg Distinguished Professor of Accounting & Information Management at Northwestern University, Illinois, USA, for over four decades, and was a trailblazer and role model for many Indian academicians who went to achieve success in top US business schools. He was cited among the leading intellectuals of Indian origin by Economic Times for many years. Apart from being a prolific researcher, consultant to boards and a widely admired teacher, he was known for his immense contribution in Indian management education space through his role in recruiting the first faculty members at IIM Bangalore, training faculty at MDI Gurgaon at Kellogg under UNDP and setting up the academic programs at Indian School of Business (ISB). In 2004, he established Great Lakes Institute of Management which is now ranked among the top business schools in the country. Dr. Balachandran was a staunch advocate of being true to one's duty and working for the betterment of the society – a value he inculcated in each of his students. In recognition for this life long contribution to Indian Management Education, he was awarded the Padma Shri award by the Govt. of India in the year 2001.



TRIBUTES FROM INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA



Ratan Tata

Chairman Emeritus, Tata Sons

"I met Dr. Bala many years ago when he came to my office with a dream of creating a management school that will be of international standing. Great Lakes Institute of Management will stand as a living tribute to this great man."

Narayana Murthy

Founder, Infosys

"The first time I met Bala was in 1995 at the India conference in Kellogg and I requested his permission to attend his class on accounting for which he had become a legend. The most important lesson I learnt from him was to see the glass half full, to handle difficulties with a smile, to break academic and social barriers, and to mix freely with students, colleagues, staff and even strangers on the street. Don Jacobs, the legendary Dean of Kellogg, and Bala were two people whose hands would be shaken by almost everybody when they went from a class at one end of the Kellogg campus to a class at the other end."



Dr. Srikant Datar

Dean, Harvard Business School

"We had a special bond and relationship. I have the fondest memories of my time with him and all he did for me. He epitomized Rabindranath Tagore's words that service was joy. He was an inspiration to us all."

N Chandrasekaran

Chairman, Tata Group

"I have known Prof. Bala for more than 20 years. His deep commitment to ensure that students in India get access to high quality management education, with international faculty and academic inputs, led to the establishment of the Great Lakes Institute of Management in Chennai. He was also an early supporter of the Indian School of Business. Prof. Bala was an inspirational thought leader."



Dr. Philip Kotler

Marketing Professor, Kellogg & Father of Modern Day Marketing

"Bala seemed to know everyone in India. He arranged for a few of my speaking trips to India. What impressed me so much was his idea at the age of 67 to start an American type business school in Chennai, India called Great Lakes Institute of Management. That business school is now one of the top business schools in India. I spoke at Great Lakes whenever the chance arose."

