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Bimal Roy

I have known Prof. Yakov Nikitin since early 2012 when I visited St. Petersburg. Following initiative from Hon'ble Ambassador of India in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit St. Petersburg Dept of Steklov Mathematical Institute. There I had a meeting with many eminent Russian personalities in the areas of Statistics, Probability and Mathematics. Prof. Nikitin steered the interaction and we decided to have joint research workshops on Probability and Statistics. Thus first joint workshop of Statisticians and Probabilists from India & Russia was held at New Delhi in December, 2012. The Russian team was led by Prof. Nikitin. Besides presentation of papers, we had the opportunity of talking to each other. I was so impressed by Prof. Nikitin: his depth of knowledge, fundamental contributions and above all friendly attitude. We became friends. Thereafter, he organised a similar workshop at the Euler Institute in June, 2014. His hospitality is simply unforgettable. The trend continued with two more workshops: January, 2016 in Bangalore and June 2019 again in St. Petersburg. The next one was scheduled in Kolkata in January, 2021; but due to the pandemic situation it won't happen.

All these academic relationships happened primarily due to the initiative of Prof. Nikitin (along with Prof. Ibrahimov & Prof. Dimitry Zaporozhets). I remain thankful to him and so are the Indian Statisticians & Probabilists.

I am deeply saddened by his demise and hope that his soul rests in peace.