Fernando Silberman, Natural-Born Teacher



regularly met Dr. Fernando Silberman when I was taking my first steps in the management responsibilities at the Certification Committee in AAOT. I always sensed in him that he was a natural-born teacher.

I shared with him many inspection visits, which I attended as an apprentice assistant. I would like to emphasize the analytical model he used for the evaluation process, focused on conceptual aspects.

I do not doubt that the book Ortopedia y Traumatología, which he co-wrote, embodies his vocation to teach the specialty to those who are going through the stage of basic training.

The distinguished philosopher Julián Marías asserted: «Happiness does not consist only in being well, but in doing something fulfilling, starting from a certain level fixed by the historical time.» I am sure that, to Dr. Fernando Silberman, the consecutive re-editions of his book represented moments of happiness in his life.

Speaking of which, it is worthy to reflect on some points in the Prefaces of his work, which are clear examples of his pursuit of "vocation", "happiness", and "continuous improvement":

"Who can understand the gorgeous happiness of the time a book is born?"

"...[students] did not only commend the clarity of his text and the easy understanding of his diagrams..."

"... the experience gathered revealed the need to amend or add chapters."

"We have presented the third edition of Ortopedia y Traumatología with moving pride and satisfaction."

"...committed to the responsibility that has been delegated to us, we have dedicated ourselves with diligence and integrity to prepare this edition."

In successive editions, his prime interest turned to the following chapters:

"Definitions, general aspects and basic concepts in orthopedics and traumatology."

"Semiology of the lower limbs."

"Fractures of the upper end of the femur."

Such a topic constitutes the foundations of Orthopedics and Traumatology.

It has been said that "happiness is built up from the little things." Dr. Fernando Silberman was a natural-born teacher who spread to the new generations those "little great things" which constitute the conceptual aspects in Orthopedics and Traumatology.

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