

Words are as important as action  
In the memory of late Csapó Tamás Gábor

Ibrahim Ibrahimov

*BME Department of Telecommunications and Artificial Intelligence*

During the decision-making process of my master's thesis topic in 2022 at the University of Szeged, I had a great chance to get to know Tamás after becoming interested in the Silent Speech Interface topic during my talk with Gosztolya Gábor. (It is the right time to thank Gábor for connecting me with Tamás back then.) For a semester, we had only online meetings, yet even then, he was very enthusiastic about educating me on the topic and ensuring that I had a great thesis topic. His passion and enthusiasm for research initially caught my attention, leading me to continue my academic path in the topic we worked on. Eventually, I started my PhD journey under his supervision at BME. I am very grateful and lucky to have him as my supervisor, as I had the greatest chance to learn how to learn, implement practically, and connect with other colleagues in the field. I remember our meetings in the very early morning (around 7 a.m.) to discuss and push forward toward deadlines together. This is the kind of support every student wishes to have from their professors or mentors, so I am thankful that our life paths crossed in this way. He would always listen and make his points clear to me, never growing tired of explaining. I was inspired by his passion for the topic and research in general. You could easily tell how 'hungry' he was for new information and new experiments. Basically, he showed me and made sure I understood that nothing is impossible in this field if you give it a try. His eyes were always bright and wide open with full attention during our conversations. His ability to be at ease with himself was obvious and gave me peace whenever I was around him or wanted to discuss any idea I had. He was always open to discussions and never showed disinterest in anything I proposed.

He was the professor you could talk to not only about research projects but also about life struggles. His support in all dimensions of life was with me

throughout the time I knew him. He never showed any personal or research-related struggles. He was always optimistic and encouraging, even when things were heading in an unpromising direction. Knowing that I could call him and talk about my struggles made me feel calm about my research path, as I could feel his hands on my shoulders. His effort to understand the person in front of him was a spark for me to become someone like him. At the core of his being was humanity ahead of everything else. He would first talk to me as a fellow human being and then as a professor or colleague. Our calls in his garden, with his kids around, are unforgettable memories that continue to inspire me to push forward, even in difficult moments.

Everything aside, he was a friend, a father I never had, a brother everyone wishes to have, and most importantly, a great person with a truly warm heart and mind. I always tried to express my gratitude to him in our conversations, but I will make sure that his legacy stays with me and is reflected in any work I do. He is the greatest reason why I have the passion and enthusiasm I do for this field today.

Lastly, I want any reader of this article to know that they are never alone. Please make sure to surround yourself with people you can talk to and have open communication with, without any judgment. Tamás was that person for me, and I will never forget this fact.

May his soul rest in peace!