# Salute to you, Nanshan

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September 10th of 2020 saw the 36th anniversary of Teacher's Day since its inception in China. On this memorable occasion, the editorial crew at *Journal of Thoracic Disease* (*JTD*) dedicated heartfelt respects to their Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Prof Nanshan Zhong, Laureate of Republic Medal and Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering, for his great contribution to the Journal over so many years (*Figure 1*).

Chinese people have never forgotten the tough time and hardship they experienced in containing SARS coronavirus that swept the country in 2003. In 2013, 10 years after defeat of the SARS outbreak, Dr. Zhong organized a special issue of *JTD*, *Emerging Infectious Respiratory Disease* & *the 10th Anniversary of SARS Epidemics*, which covered the latest progress and hot topics on prevention of novel emerging respiratory infections including SARS, H5N1, H1N1 and H7N9, to command attention to lessons learnt from the past. Today, these valuable lessons have sustained China in winning the combat against COVID-19.

Amidst the pleasant minutes of face-to-face interview in his busy itinerary, Dr. Zhong inquired about the current situation of *JTD*, and among others, the submission of articles related to COVID-19. Commenting on his article published in the March issue this year, *Modified SEIR and AI prediction of the epidemics trend of COVID-19 in China under public health interventions*, Zhong noted that the epidemic size in China predicted in this article is much smaller than as declared by certain foreign studies, but yet is most close to what happens in the real world. Majority of those prediction models, he added, actually work by putatively tracing the psychosocial behavior patterns of a naturally-occurring population. However sophisticated and intriguing they may seem, it has turned out that the prediction data about this country by various international teams, over-laden with arrogance and conceit, never succeed in estimating the dauntless valour of Chinese



**Figure 1** *Journal of Thoracic Disease* (*JTD*) editorial crew and Editor-in-Chief Nanshan Zhong.

people in fighting any invasions. "As with this journal, keep moving regardless of any difficulties, and never slow down because of the pandemic," he said while looking straight into our eyes.

With the strong support and encouragement from Dr. Zhong, *JTD* has yielded substantial progress toward its mission of disseminating edge-cutting findings in medical sciences pertinent to the journal scope. With even more diligence, we are determined to devote our career to the

excellency of publication ethics and code of conduct. Thank you, Nanshan.

## Footnote

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*Ethical Statement:* The authors are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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