FILE № 1391/53

POLIO

EHTIRAM JABI

1998 - ...
The story of an incident I am going to narrate happened in my early childhood and left a big mark in my life. The ruthless poliomyelitis disease had caught me when I was just in the second year of my life and preluded unsteady lifetime story of mine.

On my 2nd birthday, in 1998, my health condition got worse and it was just a few weeks prior to my hospital adventures lasting for years.

For me childhood years can be considered as the most important and solvent period of an each individual. Any incident happening during this period can totally change one’s future and maybe even follow them to death.

I had been treated in every summer for more than ten years. While all of my friends were having fun during the most enjoyable time of the year, I’d get various injections and would be covered in very hot rags as part of the process.

If you ask me to talk about my childhood summer memories, the first things that come to my mind would be dirty hospital rooms, doctors working there, painful treatments and eternal despair. That unbearable despair is able to conquer all my thoughts and feelings. Even though the physical pain I’d endured started to fade away from my mind after some period of time, the disease caused hardships and miserable memories are still alongside me throughout my life.

These photos are the mirrors reflecting my soul – mirrors that reflecting on myself.

“It is true that every time my life was shattered in this way I had in the end gained something, some increase in liberty and in spiritual growth and depth, but with it went an increased loneliness, an increasing chill of severance and estrangement.”

Herman Hesse “Steppenwolf”
Child Jabiyev Ehtiram Etibar was accepted to poliomyelitis department of the Hospital № 2 of Baku with his mother at the age of two on May 5, 1998.
Complaints: child’s lameness. According to mother the child has undergone the disease which was preceded by high temperature and cough. He has taken ampicillin injection and other antipyretic drugs at home.
Having seen him limping his mother has referred to pediatrician at hospital № 13 on April 26, 1998 and was sent to child department with poliomyelitis-like diagnosis.
According to mother and doctor, he has received all poliomyelitis vaccinations, the last one was given on April 4, 1998.
General health condition upon arrival is good, normal level of consciousness. Weak physique, pale skin, clear pharynx.
40 days.
Hot.
I am one of you.