

Obituary



Prof. Dr. S. Shahid Shaukat (late)
January 10, 1947 - December 29, 2022

On December 29, 2022 passed away an outstanding scientist, former chairman Department of Botany and former Director National Nematological Center, University of Karachi. Yes, Shahid Shaukat was a great scientist and scholar as said by his supervisor Prof. Dr. László Orlóci, Professor Emeritus, University of Western Ontario, Canada.

Shahid Shaukat was born in India on January 10, 1947 and migrated to Pakistan in 1951. He started his academic carrier from Islamia College, Karachi. On his own choice he took admission in Department of Botany, University of Karachi and graduated in 1966. He stood first class first in M.Sc. from department of Botany in 1968 with specialization in Plant Ecology. He joined Jamia Millia College, Karachi as a lecturer from where he started his teaching carrier in 1969. He was later appointed as lecturer in the department of Botany in 1973. Later, He did his M.S in Forestry from the University of Wales, Bangor, UK. Then, he was selected as foreign scholar, to pursue for his Ph. D degree from University of Western Ontario, Canada and earned his Ph.D degree in 1985. He has unblemished and outstanding carrier of 30 years in the department from where he retired as Professor in 2007. From 2008 to 2010 he was selected as HEC Eminent Scholar while serving in the Institute of Environmental studies, University of Karachi.

He had been teaching Ecology, Biostatistics and Bioinformatics in various departments in the University of Karachi, including, Agriculture, Environmental Studies, Marine Biology and Microbiology. He also taught Mathematical Ecology in the Master of Industrial and Business Mathematics Program in the Department of Mathematics, University of Karachi.

His whole life was devoted only to academic and research where he made outstanding achievements. He ranked 9th in the Google scholar list of Mathematical Ecologists. He was the author of 3 books and more than 600 research papers on his credit which were published in the journal of both national and International repute. He was the Chief Editor of International Journal of Biology and Biotechnology since its inception in 2004. He made an outstanding contribution in the field of Ecology not only in the country but his work has been applauded by International scientific community. He supervised 3 Ph.D students while the number of those research students who took guidance from him time to time is countless. Even the last day, before his hospitalization he was working in the laboratory and writing research paper. For his outstanding contributions in the field of research, he was elected Fellow, Royal Society of Biology, London, UK.

People around him were always attracted by his sense of humour, openness, kindness, his wish to assist people facing life problems. It is ascertained that anyone who meet him once would never forget his personality and academic gesture. He was strong willed and had a singular vision about how things should be done. Shahid Shaukat had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. He never scared to take on new opportunities and did everything with honesty and integrity. He had very strong values and was well liked by everyone, mostly due to his positive energy. He had incredible patience, and always made time to help others. Shahid Shaukat will always be in the memory of his colleagues, friends and academic society. There are no words that can express how grateful and blessed we are to be the colleagues of Shahid Shaukat.

Dr. Moazzam Ali Khan Sherwani,
Director, Institute of Environmental Studies,
University of Karachi.

CONDOLENCE

The demise of Professor Dr. Syed Shahid Shaukat (December 29, 2022) has been a matter of great sadness to us. He was a scientist of very high stature. He received education in Pakistan, England and Canada and wrote three books and more than 600 research papers in diverse scientific fields. He was the Chief Editor of International Journal of Biology and Biotechnology since its inception in 2004. May his soul rest in peace in Heaven.

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