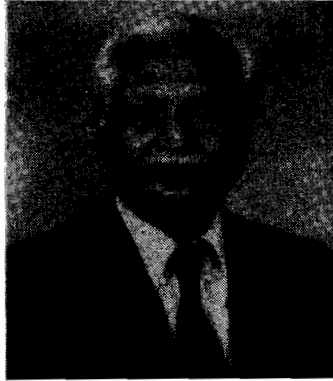


OBITUARY



DR. SYED FAKHRUL HASSAN
(1924-1994)

Dr. Syed Fakhrul Hassan died of cardiac arrest due to respiratory failure on 1st March 1994. May God Almighty shower his choicest blessings upon the departed soul and may his soul rest in peace in heaven. Amen.

Dr. Syed Fakhrul Hassan s/o Mr. Syed Ali Hassan was born on 10th October, 1924 in Hyderabad Deccan, India. He graduated from the Osmania University, Hyderabad Deccan in 1945 and then went to USA to carry out graduate work in mycology and plant pathology at the University of Minnesota (1946-49). Dr. Hassan had the opportunity of working with Prof. E.C. Stakman and Prof. J.J. Christensen on the epidemiology, dissemination, varietal reaction and race identification of rusts of wheat. He also carried out research studies on "Root rot of oats in relation to varietal improvement" for which he was awarded the degree of Ph.D. by the University of Minnesota in 1949.

On his return from USA, Dr. Hassan joined the Department of Plant Protection, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Pakistan, Karachi as an Assistant Plant Pathologist in November 1950. Dr. Hassan initiated work on rusts and smuts of cereal grains in Pakistan under the USDA and Food and Agriculture Council of Pakistan (1953-58). He also conducted courses in Plant Pathology at the Department of Botany, University of Karachi (1955). Under his supervision a cereal rust laboratory was established in Karachi (1958-63) which then moved to Sunny Bank, Murree (1963). Dr. Hassan served as Senior Plant Pathologist (1963-73) at the Crop Diseases Research Station, Islamabad which was then upgraded as Crop Disease Research Institute and Dr. Hassan served as its Director. Dr. Hassan was the Chief Organizer of the International Wheat Diseases Methodology Workshop at Islamabad from March 15-19, 1981 in collaboration with the Netherlands Government, IPO, ICARDA and CIMMYT. Dr. Hassan developed Vitreous Haemorrhage in both eyes and then retired from the PARC in December, 1983 as the Director of CDRI. Dr. Hassan continued to maintain his interest in Plant Pathology research and advisory work.

Dr. Hassan has published 52 scientific research papers in journals of international repute mostly on race identification, varietal reaction to rusts of wheat besides reports of *Uromyces pisi*, rust diseases on *Digitaria*, *Lathyrus* and *Aspergillus flavus* on the desert locust.

Dr. Hassan was a widely travelled Plant Pathologist. He had visited Plant Pathology research Stations at Louisiana, Beltsville, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Texas, Kansas, Florida, Illinois and CIMMYT in Mexico.

Dr. Hassan in his early days took active part in geological and botanical excursions. He was a member of the volleyball team of Osmania University and also took great interest in gymnastics.

Dr. Hassan has left behind a son (Syed Mohyuddin), 4 daughters (Ghosia, Mahmooda, Mehbooba, Zenab) and a host of his friends and colleagues to mourn the loss. Dr. Hassan will be remembered as a pioneer of cereal rust diseases investigations in Pakistan.

(ABDUL GHAFFAR)

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