

Professor A.P. Misra Memorial Life Time Achievement Award (2000-2001)

ABRAR MUSTAFA KHAN

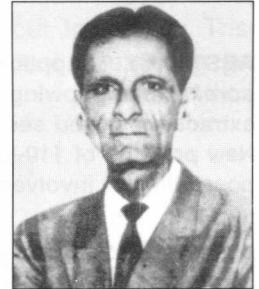
Considering his unparalleled contribution in the field of Plant Pathology and Nematology, Prof. A.M. Khan was honored with "Professor A.P. Misra Memorial Life Time Achievement Award" by IPS for the year 2000-2001.

Professor Abrar Mustafa Khan was borne on October 23, 1919 in a respectable Zamindar family of Bulandsahar (U.P.). He did his M.Sc. in Botany from AMU, Aligarh and later joined for Ph.D. under Prof. E.C. Stackman at Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota at St. Paul, USA and completed his Ph. D. in 1950. Prof. Khan initially joined the Women's College and Agriculture College of Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh and later shifted to Department of Botany where he became Professor in 1969. Initially he did research in Plant Pathology, however, in late fifties he became interested in Plant Nematology, till then unexplored field in India. It is only due to his concerted effort that Department of Botany, AMU, Aligarh became an excellent center of research in the field of Nematology and established its repute worldwide. Furthermore his unparalleled contribution towards the establishment of the discipline in India, through organization of South East Asia Post Graduate Nematology Courses at a regular interval since 1967 and publication of Indian Journal of Nematology, since 1971 won him a sobriquet "Father of Nematology" in India.

During his professional career, Prof. Khan produced 36 Ph.D. students and made over 350 research publications including 225 full length papers, 125 abstracts/conference papers, 4 Presidential address, several popular articles and one book, *Medicinal Plants and Folklores* (1989).

He received the Rockefeller Fellowship to visit active centres of research in Plant Nematology

in Europe and USA (1963). He arranged Plant Nematology Training Course in India with the help of Rockefeller Foundation (1966-1968), and South East Asia P.G. Nematology Course with the help of the Dutch Government (1967-68).



He has been member/fellow of several reputed societies including Indian National Science Academy. He was also the President of Agricultural Science section of 71st session of Indian Science Congress held at Ranchi. He also delivered XVIII Mundkur Memorial Lecture organized by Indian Phytopathological Society. Besides, he has also served as the chairman of ICAR Panel for Plant Nematology and Plant Pathology. Prof. Khan made frequent academic visits to leading Plant Nematology laboratories in Belgium, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, UK and USA. In recognition of his valuable contribution ICAR awarded him Rafi Ahmad Kidwai Memorial Award for the biennium 1968-69 and 1970-71.

He has been the Principal Investigator of several projects funded by ICAR, CSIR, UGC, PL-480 (USA). Besides, Nematology, he along with his coworkers made commendable contributions in powdery mildew of cucurbits and smut fungi.

Besides academic interest he has served the U.P. Cricket Association for over a decade in the capacity of Vice-President.

He retired as Professor of Botany Department at AMU in 1979 and was made Professor Emeritus for life in 1982.