

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ



**Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Ahmad
(1920-2016)**

It is with great sorrow and profound grief that the Zoological Society of Pakistan announces the sad demise of Dr. Muzaffer Ahmad. He breathed his last on November 22, 2016 at the age of 97. He was Emeritus Professor of Zoology at The University of the Punjab, Lahore, with which he had a long association of more than 66 years (including 15 years as head of the department). He joined The University in 1949 as a Senior Lecturer and retired in 1980 as Mian Afzal Hussain Professor of Zoology.

Dr. Ahmad was born in India on 20th September 1920 and opted for Pakistan in 1947 while he was studying in USA as Government of India scholar. He studied at University of the Lucknow, India (B.Sc.), Muslim University, Aligarh (M.Sc.), Imperial Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi (Assoc. IARI) and the University of Chicago (Ph.D.).

Dr. Ahmad was recipient of several awards, including Azaz-i-Kamal from the President of Pakistan, Gold Medal for Fellowship, Gold Medal for Research Publications and Felicitation from Pakistan Academy of Sciences; Gold Medal jointly awarded by United States Department of Agriculture and the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council for successfully completing PL-480 Programmes and Life-Time Achievement Award from Zoological Society of Pakistan.

Dr. Ahmad made valuable contributions to promote the science of Zoology in Pakistan. He was Founder Fellow of the Zoological Society of Pakistan and Founder Member of The Pakistan Congress of Zoology. He was the first editor of the Pakistan Journal of Zoology and Proceedings of Pakistan Congress of Zoology and then their Editor-in-Chief. He piloted the scheme recommended by the committee appointed by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Pakistan to establish a Museum of Natural History at Islamabad, which is now a full-fledged institution.

He built up one of the world's finest collections of termites, mostly from the Oriental Region (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaya, Sarawak and North Borneo). The collection includes some 400 species, 97 genera and 74 holotypes.

Dr. Ahmad's decade-long research on termites has been prominently included (with his photograph) in the 7-volume, 2074 page. *Treatise on the Isoptera of the World*, published by the American Museum of Natural History, New York. According to the treatise "his 1950 consideration of termite phylogeny remains as one of the most cited and classic works of the Isoptera".

May the departed soul rest in peace.
Aameen!

Prof. Dr. A.R. Shakoori