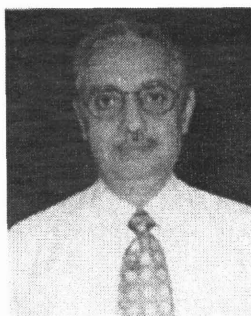


OBITUARY



B. L. Dhar
(1946-2007)

Prof. B.L. Dhar died in the early hours of 28th October, 2007 in Noida after a rather short but painful stomach infection. His absence would certainly be felt by many of his former students, colleagues, friends, but most painfully by his wife Shakuntla, son Ramneek and his daughter-in-law.

When Prof. Dhar retired from the Department of Geology, University of Jammu in February 2006, he was asked to continue at least till June 2006. Later he settled down in Noida where his only son was living. This shows his affection towards a complete family life. About a year ahead of his retirement from University of Jammu, they had planned to move to Delhi/Noida. Accordingly, they bought an apartment in Noida and tastefully prepared to welcome their son and daughter-in-law. When the couple was blessed with a daughter Professor Dhar was so happy and excited that he brought a baby pram to take the little one for a stroll in the park. This was his love for family.

In July, Prof. Dhar complained of stomach pain. There started the rounds of hospitals and investigations. This led to 2 major and 3 minor operations in span of 3 months. The infection could not be removed/treated and finally on 28th October he left us all.

Prof. Dhar was born on 26th February, 1946 in Srinagar, Kashmir. He had his education in Jammu and Kashmir and graduated in Geology from University of Jammu. He also

obtained Ph.D. from University of Jammu under the supervision of Professor S N Wakhloo. Professor Dhars major interest has been in the field of Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology, and Environmental Geology. He served University of Jammu from 1973 till 2006 in the capacity as a lecturer (1973-85), Reader (1985-91) and Professor (1991-2006). Here he guided 15 students for Ph. D. and 19 for M. Phil courses.

In the University circle, he was well respected. He held the position of Head of the Department, as well as the Dean, Faculty of Science. He was also associated with various projects and committees of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Professor Dhar had very pleasing personality he was polite, cultured and soft spoken. I had several occasions to meet him in Delhi and Jammu. I admired his clean and proper dressing sense and his hospitality. Whenever, I visited Jammu he took care of the Department and the guest visiting. He would personally visit the Guest House to ensure that the guests are comfortable.

It is sad that Professor Dhar left us so early after his superannuation. So is the destiny and we have just to accept this. Professor Dhar would be really felt by many in the field of academics and Geology.

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