

## OBITUARY



**Aluru Srirama Das**  
(1925-2011)

With a deep sense of regret, I record the sudden demise of my beloved Prof. Dr. Aluru Srirama Das, of Andhra University. Born in Atkur in Krishna District, he had his early education at his village. He did his B.Sc (Hons) at Andhra University, Visakhapatnam with geology as the main subject, and M.Sc (Geology) by dissertation.

Sriramadas joined as faculty in the Geology Department in the year 1948. He used to teach, mineralogy, structural geology and petrology. Later in 1952 he went on Government of India Scholarship to Harvard University. During the stay at Harvard (1952-1955), he did MA in geology and Ph.D from Harvard University. He got trained under stalwarts like M.P. Billings and McCinstry. He published one landmark paper in American Mineralogist entitled "Correlation of Refractive Indices, Specific gravity and Unit cell edges of garnets" which is one of the most referred articles by mineralogists and petrologists all over the world. He had also published article on pyroxenes with low extinction angles.

Prof. Srirama Das became Professor and Head of the Department of Geology in the year 1965, hardly when he was forty years old and held the post of headship for 18

long years and for six months he was in-charge Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University.

Prof. Sriramadas had published articles in various fields like Sandstones: its appositional fabric, heavy mineral assemblages beach sands of Visakhapatnam, Kondapalli chromites, Apatite-Magnetite-Vermiculite deposits of Kasipatnam to mention a few.

Prof. Sriramadas had an aura around himself and his easy approachable manner attracted many research scholars. He guided 30 doctoral students and his research team unfolded the many facets on khonodolite–charnockite-leptinite granulites belt of Eastern Ghats.

Prof. Sriramadas had certain excellent qualities. He was an amicable, humble, soft spoken and mild mannered person and was never harsh in his dealings. Any student or faculty member could approach him for any help. He was an honest person and was awarded the best teacher's prize by Andhra University.

May his soul rest in peace.

K. SREERAMACHANDRA RAO  
P.S.N.MURTHY