

On 17th September, 1980 the Palaeobotanical Society lost a distinguished Member, Dr. Suresh Narayan Singh, Professor and Head of the Geology Department, Lucknow University, Lucknow. With his untimely passing away, the geologists in general and micropalaeontologists in particular have lost a competent colleague.

Born on April 10, 1927, Suresh proved true to his family's academic traditions and had shown a keen sense of devotion in his studies. He received Science Faculty Gold Medals for his B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. degrees in 1947 and 1948. He began his career as a teacher in the Geology Department of the Lucknow University in July, 1948 but soon thereafter joined Geological Survey of India in September, 1948. A year later, he came back to the Lucknow University upon personal persuasion by Acharya Narendra Dev, the then-Vice-Chancellor to resume teaching in Geology. He went to Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A. for higher studies on Govt. of India Scholarship in February, 1955. From 1957—1960, he served on deputation the Oil & Natural Gas Commission, a Govt. of India undertaking, as Head of the Palaeontology Section of the Central Laboratories. In this assignment, he began from scratch and founded the Palaeontology laboratory which later blossomed into a self-contained centre of research. In June, 1960 he rejoined the Lucknow University and served there till his last.

Dr. Singh was awarded the Ph.D. degree by the University of Lucknow in March, 1967 on the thesis entitled "A study of the Eocene rocks of Rajasthan with special reference to their Stratigraphy, Foraminifera and Ostracoda". Besides, he has to his credit over 46 publications in various standard scientific journals. Notable among his researches are : *Discovery of Kirthars in Rajasthan ; Zonation and correlation of the Eocene of Rajasthan ; Discovery of marine Triassic in Rajasthan ; Erection of one new foraminiferal family and two foraminiferal subfamilies, and The proposal of a new terminology on arenaceous foraminiferal wall-structure*, which won him wide appreciation.

In 1970 he attended the Second Planktonic Conference at Rome and toured various Universities in Europe. He also lectured on many occasions in various national seminars and several universities in the country. In 1972, he convened and organised the II Colloquium on Indian Micropalaeontology and Stratigraphy.

During his long academic career, he was member and fellow of many academic societies and associations and also held several important positions in honorary capacity in various governmental and autonomous organisations. In all that he did, whether academic or extracurricular, he always strove for excellence, put sustained efforts and showed an inexhaustible patience. He blended in him the vision of a scientist with that of a humanist. He was moved by the sufferings of his students and colleagues and subordinates and readily made his services available to them whenever the need of his help arose. He always advised them to inculcate a sense of discipline and honesty and develop a scientific approach to the problems of life, be they educational, social or political. It will be a fitting tribute to him if his unfulfilled plans are executed with the same convictions and enthusiasm which characterised him.



PROFESSOR S. N. SINGH
(1927—1980)