

Obituary



Professor Dr. M Salimullah

(1949-2016)

Eminent scientist and distinguished Fellow of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences Professor Dr. Mohammad Salimullah breathed his last on 14 December 2016 in the United States of America when he was visiting his son.

Professor Mohammad Salimullah was born on January 5, 1949 in Dhaka. He came of a respectable Muslim family of Keraniganj under the district of Dhaka. His father was Md. Ahsanullah and mother was Amirun Nessa.

Dr. Md. Salimullah graduated with Honours in Physics from Dhaka University in 1971 and then obtained the M.Sc. degree in Physics (Research group) in 1973 from the same university. He afterwards, 1980, obtained a Doctoral degree from IIT, New Delhi. During this period he specialized in the field of Plasma Physics.

Dr. Md. Salimullah started his career as a Research Fellow at the Dhaka University in 1973 and continued till 1975. He joined IIT, New Delhi in 1976 as a Research Scholar and earned the Ph.D. degree in 1980. Prior to his study at IIT, New Delhi he had joined as a Lecturer in Physics at the Jahangirnagar University. On his return from New Delhi he rejoined Jahangirnagar University, this time as an Assistant Professor of Physics. During his tenure at Jahangirnagar University he subsequently became an Associate Professor in 1985 and Professor in 1989. He continued there till his retirement in December 2016. During his stay at the Jahangirnagar University he also served as Dean of the Faculty of Science (1986-88) and as a Chairman of the Department of Physics (1992-94). For two years he also served at the GC University, Lahore, Pakistan as a Foreign Fellow, Professor Salam Chair in Physics.

Professor Salimullah has made valuable contribution in research in the field of Plasma physics, nationally and internationally well recognized. His research in this field includes parametric instabilities in laser produced plasmas, nonlinear effects in semiconductor plasmas, laser-plasma beat wave accelerators and dusty

plasmas of space and laboratory conditions. His works on dusty plasmas, in particular waves and instabilities and the theory of Coulomb dust crystal formations in dusty environments have initiated a lot of interest in the Plasma-physics community in the world. Before his death he was engaged in research in quantum plasmas. Professor Salimullah is specially recognized for introducing for the first time the dust-lower hybrid work and dust shear Alfvén wave in dusty magnetoplasmas of space and laboratory conditions and the Shukla-Nambu-Salimullah potential in Physics.

Professor Salimullah and his Group published more than 300 research papers in national and international journals and conference proceedings. Dr. Salimullah was awarded the H. P. Roy Gold Medal 1981 by the Dhaka University for Research in Physics; The Joint Award of 1986 by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and The Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste, Italy; Bangladesh University Grants Commission (UGC) Award 1988 for Research in Physics; "Kharazmi International Prize (1994)" by Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (by President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani of the Islamic Republic of Iran); The Asiatic Society of Bangladesh Award (2001) for research contribution in Physics; Senior Scientist Award-2002 by Bangladesh Academy of Sciences; ISESCO Science Prize 2003 at the OIC meeting, Tehran, Iran.

Professor Salimullah was an Associate Member, International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy since 1983; Member, Bangladesh Association for the Advance-ment of Sciences (BAAS); Executive Member, Bangladesh Physical Society; Editor, Jahangirnagar University Journal of Science (2000); Biography International (1989), "Reference Asia"s Who's Who of Man & Woman of Achievement (1990), 1995, 1998, 1999 and 2001. The 2000 Millennium Medal of Honor; Man of the Year 1998, American Biographical Institute, Inc.; Member, Research Board of Advisors, American Biographical Institute, Inc. 2000; Outstanding Intellectuals of the 20th Century, England; 21st Century Award for Achievement, IBC, Cambridge, England; Asia, Man & Women of Achievement, (2003); The Contemporary "Who's Who of Professional", 2004/2005; Distinguished & Admirable Achievers- 2005; The 2005 Man of Achievement Award by American Biographical Institute, Inc.; ICB Leading Scientists of the World- 2005.

In sad demise of Dr. Md. Salimullah, the Academy has lost a valued Fellow scientist and the nation a great son. The Fellows of the Academy expressed heartfelt sympathy to the members of his bereaved family. We pray to Almighty Allah, Most Gracious and Most Merciful to grant eternal peace to the departed soul and to give strength and courage to the members of his family to bear the loss with fortitude.

– Mesbahuddin Ahmed