



OBITUARY

PROFESSOR K.B. POWAR



(December 20, 1937-February, 2014)

Professor Krishnapratap Bhagwantrao Powar breathed his last after a prolonged illness and suffering from cancer at 3.30 pm on February 22nd, 2016 in the Dr. D.Y. Patil deemed University Hospital at Pune. He was working as a Chancellor of Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical University, Pimpri, Pune and had adorned several positions such as Secretary General of Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi; Vice-Chancellor of Shivaji University, Kolhapur and Head of the Department of Geology, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. The family members, his associates, colleagues, students and friends were grieved in his sad demise that created void in the field of geosciences and the higher education in India. Just 20 days before his demise, his wife Jyoti Pawar also passed away due to prolonged illness. The couple is survived by their son, Dr. Sanjay Pawar and daughter, Monika Pawar-Patil.

Professor Powar was born on December 20, 1937 and had his higher education at the Nagpur University, Nagpur from where he obtained his B.Sc. in 1958 and M.Sc. degree in Applied Geology in 1960 and was awarded the J.P. Trivedi Gold Medal and the King Edward Memorial Scholarship. He later moved to Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi and obtained his Ph.D. degree in Geology in 1967. Subsequently, he received the Fulbright and Institute of International Education awards for higher studies and research in the U.S. during 1966-67.

Professor Powar was an exceptionally good teacher, great researcher and a perfect educational administrator in his professional career of 44 years. His career as a Lecturer in Geology started at Banaras Hindu University where he served during 1960-69. He then joined as a Reader in Geology at Poona University (1969-77) and became Professor of Geology, Poona University (1977-86) before being appointed as Vice Chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur in September 1986. He was reappointed as a Vice-Chancellor in September 1989 and completed his term as a Vice-Chancellor in 1992. He then was appointed as Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi in February 1993 and was reappointed for a second term of five years in February, 1998. He retired from the AIU in December 2002 and thereafter worked as the Founder Director of the Amity Foundation for Higher Learning, New Delhi till November 2004. Later, he was Advisor to the Vice Chancellor D.Y. Patel Vidyapeeth (Deemed University), Pune and became the Chancellor of the same University until his death.

Professor Powar made varied and significant research contributions in the field of Geology. His important contributions relate to the geology of the Kumaun and Ladakh Himalaya; and geology of the Deccan Volcanic Province. He successfully guided 22 research students for their Ph.D degrees in the Earth Sciences, published 82 research papers, edited 3 research volumes and authored 4 textbooks in Geology. In recognition of his research work, he was elected as Fellow of the Geological Society of India (1966), Fellow of Maharashtra Academy of Sciences (1994) and Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India (1988). He was elected President of the Geology and Geography Section of the Indian Science Congress Association (1986-87). He was Vice President, Maharashtra Academy of Science (1991-94). He was elected the first Life Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of India, in 2006, for his overall contributions to mineralogy and petrology. He was awarded the G-51 Millennium Award by the World Environment Congress and others in 1998. Two *festschrifts* - *Contributions to Environmental Sciences* (2000) and *Geoinicators and Related Environmental Studies* (2002) - have been published in his honour.

Professor Powar was widely known for his contributions to research and policy planning related to higher education, especially in the areas of quality assurance, economics of education, internationalization of higher education and governance of higher education institutions. In this area, he published 64 papers, authored 6 books and edited 17 volumes dealing with different aspects of higher education besides guiding one Ph.D. student in the field of distance higher education. The books authored by him include, '*Accreditation in Higher Education: The Indian Perspective*' (1996), '*Performance Indicators in Distance Higher Education*' (2000), '*Indian Higher Education: A Conglomerate of Concepts, Facts and Practices*' (2002), '*Internationalisation of Higher Education: focus on India*' (2003), '*Quality of Higher Education*' (2005) and '*Reflections*' based on his experience in governance in higher education institutions.

Professor Powar was a member, Board of Management of the Geological Survey of India (1984-87), Chairman of the National Committee for International Union of Geological Sciences (1988-91) and President, and Chairman, Governing Body of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehra Dun (1991-97). He was Convenor of the Earth Sciences Panel of the University Grants Commission, member of the Executive Committee and the Council of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, member of the Governing Body of the Sports Authority of India and member of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

Professor Powar's charismatic style of functioning, unpretentious approach and humanitarian values held him in high esteem and made him popular and respectable in society and academic circle. His gracious and formal behavior reflected his qualities as a teacher and researcher that can be emulated by all of us. Before his death, though he was suffering from cancer, he never stopped his fervour for writing and completed his last book '*Reflections*', while he was in hospital and in a condition where he was unable to hold a pen and paper in his hand. He simply gave dictations to complete the book. A magnificent teacher, gleaming researcher, impeccable educational administrator and venerable human being, Professor K.B. Powar will be fondly remembered by all his friends, students and colleagues for his contributions to geology and higher education in India.

Pune
March 3rd, 2016

N.J. Pawar
Professor of Geology,
S.P. Pune University and
(Former Vice-Chancellor,
Shivaji University, Kolhapur)

INTERNATIONAL PALAEOONTOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING AT BEIJING, CHINA

The International Palaeontological Association (I.P.A.) organized its Council Business Meeting at the Institute of Vertebrate Palaeontology and Palaeoanthropology, (IVPP), Beijing (China) from 15th to 17th May, 2016 under the presidency of Dr. Zhonghe Zhou, President of IPA. Prof. M.P. Singh, Secretary, Palaeontological Society of India participated as representative of the Corporate Member. Following sixteen members participated in the meeting: These include

1. Dr. Zhonghe Zhou, President, IPA.
2. Dr. Lars Holmer (Sweden), Secretary General, I.P.A.
3. Dr. James Crampton (New Zealand) Vice-President, I.P.A.
4. Dr. Hiroshi Kitazato (Japan) Vice-President, I.P.A.
5. Dr. Thomas Servais (Belgium) Vice-President, I.P.A.
6. Dr. Olga Kossovaya (Russia) Councillor at Large.
7. Dr. Michael J. Benton (England) Last President, IPA
8. Dr. Roger D.K. Thomas (USA) Last Secretary General
9. Dr. Jere H. Lipps (USA), Paleopark Representative
10. Dr. Yongdong Wang (China), Special Invitee I.P.A. Web Manager.
11. Dr. Qun Yang (China), Representative of Corporate Member
12. Dr. Takenori Sasaki (Japan), Representative of Corporate Member

13. Dr. M.P. Singh (India), Representative of Corporate Member
14. Dr. Vachik Hairapetian (Iran), Representative of Corporate Member
15. Dr. Dayou Zhai (China), Representative of Corporate Member
16. Dr. Eric Buffetaut (France), Organizer of the next IPA Congress.

On May 15, 2016 delegates assembled at Hotel Xiyuan for registration. The meeting was held on May 16, 2016 at IVPP at 9 A.M. under the Chairmanship of Dr. Lars Holmer. Dr. Zhonghe Zhou, President IPA welcomed the delegates and introduced main topics of the business meeting. Dr. Lars Holmer presented the budget report on behalf of Dr. Ron Parsley, Treasurer of IPA, who could not come. Dr. Hiroshi Kitazato suggested about how to enhance connection of IPA with IVGS and IVBS in order to make IPA more effective and visible among palaeontologists in the world.

Dr. Thomas Servais gave suggestions on connection between IPA and affiliated palaeontological organizations; later on the meeting discussed the establishment of fellows of IPA and other honours or prizes of the organization.

In the afternoon session, which was chaired by Dr. James Crampton, Dr. Jere Lipps made presentation on palaeoparks project initiative. A detailed discussion was held on how to make the project play a bigger role in promoting the conservation of



Participants at the IPA Council Business Meeting at Beijing, China.

important fossil sites and raising public awareness about the significance of the fossil conservation. Dr. Lipps suggested observing the International Fossil Day every year sometime in the Second week of October. Prof. M.P. Singh made a presentation on the activities of the Palaeontological Society of India and efforts being made to popularise palaeontology in India.

Dr. Yougdong Wang apprised members on the progress of the website of IPA. He invited suggestions from the members for its improvement. Lastly, discussion was held on how to expand the number of membership of the IPA and how to improve its official web pages and possibility of the selection of the annual 10 palaeontological discoveries or break through of IPA.

The Morning session on 17th May, 2016 was chaired by Dr. Zhonghe Zhou. Dr. Eric Buffetaut made presentation on the organization of the next International Palaeontological congress at Paris from July 9th to July 13th 2018. The meeting deliberated on the issues of the next IPC. Dr. Zhou initiated discussion on the establishment of special committees of honours, prizes and other missions.

In the post-lunch session, an excursion was arranged to Zhoukoudian, a famous *Homo erectus* site.

M.P. Singh
Secretary, Palaeontological Society of India,
Lucknow

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY, PALAEOONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA FOR THE YEAR 2015-16

(Presented at the Annual General Meeting on 1st March, 2016)

Mr. President and esteemed Fellows of the Society,

A very warm welcome to you all at the 60th Annual General Body Meeting of your Society. I am happy to present a brief annual report of the activities of the Society for the year 2015-16.

Annual General Meeting

The 59th Annual General Body Meeting of the Society was held on 2nd March 2015 under the chairmanship of Prof. Ashok Sahni. Thirty-eight fellows attended the meeting. The Annual Report of the Society was presented by the Secretary and audited account for the year 2013-14 placed by the Treasurer before the members. These were approved.

Council Meetings

The Executive Council of the Society met on seven occasions during the preceding year for transacting the routine business of the Society.

Lectures

1. 33rd M.R. Sahni Lecture was delivered on 2nd March 2015 by **Dr. Franz T. Fursich, Emeritus Professor, University of Erlangen – Nuremberg, Germany** on “Shell concentrations: a tool for palaeoecological and palaeoenvironmental reconstructions”.
2. 17th Prof. S.N. Singh Memorial Lecture was delivered by **Mr. N.K. Verma, M.D. and C.E.O., O.N.G.C., Videsh** on 24th September, 2015, on a topic entitled “Challenges and opportunities for global E & P business under price regime”
3. **Dr. O.N. Bhargava, F.N.A.** was the Speaker of 3rd Prof. R.C. Misra Memorial Lecture held on 23rd November 2015. He spoke on “Unique Geological Heritage Features and Geotourism”.

Awards

1. **M.R. Sahni Memorial Gold Medal** was awarded to Ms. Komal Singh for securing the highest marks in Palaeontology at 3rd & 4th Semesters (Combined) examinations of 2015 of University of Lucknow.
2. **Prof. R.C. Misra Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award** for the year 2015 was conferred on **Dr. O.N. Bhargava, F.N.A.**
3. **Prof. S.K. Singh Memorial Gold Medal** for the best paper published in the Journal of the Palaeontological Society of India during the year 2015, was awarded to Dr. Mohan Nagasundaram of G.S.I., Kolkata for the paper entitled, “Middle Holocene phytolith record from a marine sediment core, off Land fall Island, North Andman : an indicator for understanding SW Monsoon variations” (*Journal of the Palaeontological Society of India*, vol.59 (2), pp. 181-192, 2014).
4. **Sharda Chandra Memorial Gold Medal** for the year 2014, was awarded to Dr. Amlava Bhattacharya of B.S.I.P., Lucknow for a paper, “Analysis of vegetation and Climate Changes during late Pleistocene from Zero valley, Arunachal Pradesh, Eastern Himalaya region” *Quaternary Science Review*, 101 (2014), 111-123 (Jointly with Nivedita Mehrotra, Santosh K. Shah, Nathani Basavaiah, Vandana Choudhary and Indra Bir Singh).
5. **Mani Shanker Shukla Memorial Gold Medal** for the year 2014, was awarded to Dr. Pawan Govil, Scientist C, of B.S.I.P., Lucknow for his outstanding contribution to micropalaeontology (below 35 years).

Prof. M.P. Singh, Secretary of the Society, delivered the Presidential address at 25th Indian Colloquium of Micropalaeontology and Stratigraphy on “Future of Palaeontology in India” on 18th December, 2015 at Aurangabad.

Dr. V.P. Misra, Vice President of the Society, represented the Society at the meeting of Federation of Indian GeoScience Association at Goa. He spoke on “Shaping the future of Earth Science Education in India. FIGA organised a conference on “GeoSciences for the future : an Indian perception”.

Current Membership

Life Member	324	(Including 23 in current year)
Ordinary Member	03	
Honorary Member	02	
Institutional Member	02	
Total	331	

Publication

The Society publishes an internationally recognized SCI Journal of the Palaeontological Society of India with 0.432 impact factor besides publishing the special volumes and field guide books, as and when required. I am happy to inform that impact factor of the Journal has increased from 0.2 to 0.432. For this, the credit goes to the editors of the journal (Prof. A.K. Jauhri, Prof. S. Kumar and Dr. Shyam Kishore) and the members of the editorial board.

Finances

Department of Science and Technology, Govt. Of India, has given Rs.85,000/= to meet out the partial expenses on publication of the Journal.

Acknowledgements

The Society expresses its deep sense of gratitude to the **Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India** for granting Rs.85,000/= for publication of the Journal of the Society. The financial assistance from Mr. Arun Mishra, towards R.C. Misra lecture is gratefully acknowledged. We are grateful to various committee members who have helped us in the selecting the medal winners of various awards.

The Society is grateful to the **Head, Geology Department, University of Lucknow** and all faculty members, students and staff for extending unreserved help and support in the activities of the society. To a large number of geoscientists, who reviewed the scientific papers published in the journal of the society during the 2015, we express our indebtedness and grateful thanks for their kind help.

I am personally obliged to all the members of the Executive Council of the society and fellows for their help, support, and guidance in the smooth functioning of the Society.

1st March, 2016

M.P. Singh
Secretary, Palaeontological Society of India,
Lucknow

THE PALAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA, LUCKNOW

(Registered under Societies Act, U.P. Govt.)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS

(From 1st April 2014 To 31st March 2015)

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)
Opening Balances:			
F.D.R.	1656340.00	Honorarium to Part-Time Worker	75200.00
UCO Bank (A/C No. 16644)	2743.34	Auditors Fees	5618.00
IOB (1867)	608013.13	Printing & Stationery Expenses	9351.00
Cash in hand	7919.18	Postage Expenses	24977.00
Sub-total	2275015.65	Telephone & Internet Expenses	14864.00
		Publication Expenses	263535.00
Admission & Subs. Fee	45000.00	Miscellaneous Expenses	7200.00
Sale of Publication, etc	238179.74	M.R Sahni Memorial Lecture Expenses	41396.00
Intrest on S/B A/C	19815.00	Conveyance Charges	1280.00
Intrest on FDR	181978.00	S.N Singh Mem. Lecture Expenses	14413.00
DST Grant (SERB)	85000.00	Website Maintanence Expenses	10200.00
For Ladakh Field Workshop from WIHG	100000.00	R.C. Misra Memorial Lecture Expenses	27426.00
		New Desktop Computer	60000.00
		Ladakh Field Workshop Expenses	448610.00
		TDS on Interest On FDR	13901.00
		FIGA Meeting Expenses	30752.00
		Closing Balances :	
		Cash in hand	1906.18
		UCO Bank (16644)	2853.34
		IOB (1867)	110044.87
		F.D.R.	1781461.00
			1896265.39
(In Rs.)	2944988.39		2944988.39

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

We have checked the above statement of Receipt & Payment of Palaentological Society of India, Lucknow for the period from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 produced before us and information & explanation given to us and found the same correct as per the records.

For Amit Agarwal & Co.
Chartered Accountants

(CA A.K. Agarwal)
Partner
Place : Lucknow
Date : 28.04.2015

(Prof. S. Kumar)
Treasurer
Treasurer
The Palaeontological
Society of India

(Prof. M.P. Singh)
Secretary
Secretary

Palaeontological Society of India
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