

Obituary

Dr. Syed Riaz Ali Shah (1924–2018)

Dr. Riaz Ali Shah was born on October 20th 1924 in Lahore, British India. As a student the famous Government College, Lahore he earned BSc (Hon's) and MSc (Chem. Tech.) from University of the Punjab and was awarded Gold Medal. He obtained PhD in Chemistry from University of Birmingham, UK. His research pertained to analytical chemistry with contributions in glass and ceramics, minerals and building materials.

Dr. Riaz Ali Shah was Company Director, Pakistan (PVC), Karachi, 1992; Consultant, Pakistan Science Foundation, 1984-1987; Director General, Pakistan Museum of Natural History, 1982-1984; Director, PASTIC, 1983; Director, Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR), Karachi, 1981-1982; Director PCSIR, Peshawar, 1972-1981; Head, Mineral Research Division, PCSIR, Karachi, 1970; Principal Scientific Officer, PCSIR, 1964-1970; Senior Research Officer, PCSIR, 1959; Research Officer, PCSIR, 1958; In charge, Pakistan Mint Department, Lahore, 1952-1954; Lecturer, University of the Punjab, Institute of Chemical Technology, 1947-1952. He helped Pakistan Science Foundation in establishing Pakistan Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Riaz Ali Shah had scores of publications, including research articles in international and national journals of repute. He earned Academic Roll of Honor at Govt. College, Lahore and Open Gold Medal of Pakistan Academy of Sciences. He was Fellow of Pakistan Academy of History & Philosophy of Science; Fellow of Institute of Chemical Engineers; and Associate/Member of Royal Institute of Chemistry. He was elected as Fellow of Pakistan Academy of Sciences in 1974, and also served as Vice President of the Academy. Dr Shah served as President of Pakistan Association of History and Philosophy of Science and Chief Editor of the journal published by the Association.



On 27th January, 2018, Dr. Riaz Ali Shah left us all to meet his creator after enduring prolonged ailments of heart and feet. We will miss him; so will his lovely family. May Allah Subhan bless him with Jannat-ul-Firdos. Aameen.

Professor Dr. M. Salim Akhtar, S.I.
Fellow, Pakistan Academy of Sciences