

Obituary

Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal Khan (1953–2019)

Vice President, Pakistan Academy of Sciences, (PAS)
&
Vice Chancellor, University of Karachi, Karachi

It is with profound grief to inform all colleagues, friends, associates and well-wishers that Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal Khan (*S.I.*), a versatile Botanist of Pakistan, Vice President, Pakistan Academy of Sciences and Vice Chancellor, University of Karachi, Karachi breathed his last on May 04, 2019 at Karachi. As one of the most highly rewarded academician and scientist of Pakistan, Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal Khan has left behind a rich harvest of sweet memories and achievements as inspiration for all those who know him.

Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal Khan joined Pakistan Academy of Sciences as Fellow in 2001. He served the Academy as Secretary: PAS Karachi Chapter from 2004-2007 as well as Vice President, PAS from 2018- May 2019.

Prof. Dr. Ajmal Khan had a distinguished career in the field of Botany. His specific research interests included Seed Dormancy, Salt Tolerance, Demography of Salt Marsh and Salt Desert Species and Evaluation of Cash-crop Halophytes. In recognition of his outstanding contributions in the field of Botany, Ecological Management of Intertidal, Coastal and Inland Saline Ecosystems. Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal received prestigious civil awards, including: Sitara-i-Imtiaz (2007) and Presidential Award of Pride of Performance, (2001). His others awards include Life Time Achievement Award by Pakistan Botanical Society, 2016; Distinguished Scientist of the Year, Pakistan Academy of Sciences,

2008; Gold Medal, Pakistan Academy of Sciences, 1999; 1st Position in M.Sc., University of Karachi, Pakistan.



Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal Khan was also honored with membership of various outstanding national and international bodies, including The Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS), The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Fulbright Research Fellowship, German Academy Exchange Services (DAAD), Germany, Member: Botanical Society of America, International Ecological Society (INTECOL), Life Member, Pakistan Botanical Society, Sigma Xi, USA; National Curriculum Committee, University Grants Commission.

Throughout his scientific career, Prof. Dr. M. Ajmal Khan remained a strong source of encouragement and support for his students and associated scientific community. There are no words to describe how much he will be missed. Our thoughts and heartfelt condolences go out to the family, friends and colleagues.

May ALLAH Almighty bless his soul in peace in heavens; Aameen.

