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Obituary
DR. ABDUL GHAFOOR CHAUDHRY
1919 – 1982



Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry passed away on 14th October, 1982 at the National Institute of Cardiovascular diseases in Karachi after a brief illness. May God Almighty shower His blessings upon the departed soul. Ameen.

Dr. Abdul Ghafoor belonged to a respectable family of agriculturists. He was born in Sahiwal on 15th August, 1919. He studied agriculture at the Agriculture College, Lyallpur (now Agriculture University, Faisalabad), graduated with a B.Sc. (Agric.) in 1939 and obtained M.Sc (Agric.) in Mycology and Plant Pathology in 1941. He joined the Agriculture Department and was incharge of wheat breeding sub-station, Gurdaspur. At the time of partition of India in 1947, Dr. A Ghafoor migrated to Lyallpur in Pakistan leaving his hearth and home in India. In 1948 he was awarded a fellowship for studies at the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Berkeley, California from where he obtained M.Sc. degree. On return from USA Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry served the Department of Plant Protection and worked as Assistant Plant Pathologist (1951-52), Assistant Quarantine Mycologist (1952-56), Plant Pathologist, East Pakistan Dacca (1956), Systematic Mycologist (1956-61), Plant Pathologist (1961-67). In 1963 Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry again went to USA and worked with Prof. W.C. Snyder, at the University of Berkeley, California to complete his Doctorate dissertation on *Aphanomyces* black root disease of radish. Dr. Ghafoor was Deputy Director (1967-75) and Joint Director in the Department of Plant Protection from 1975 till his retirement in August 1979.

Dr. Ghafoor was a dedicated scientist and contributed much to the advancement of scientific knowledge. His studies dealt with the root rot disease of tobacco, sooty mold of rice, *Phytophthora* wilt of snap dragon, stem rot of *Piper betle*, weeds of crop plants etc. Dr. Ghafoor authored or coauthored more than 20 scientific and technical papers published in national and foreign journals.

Although after his retirement Dr. Abdul Ghafoor enjoyed a private life but in search of knowledge he completed a degree course of homeopathic medicine. Thus as an agricultural scientist, he was caring for the health of plants and as a retired scientist he was trying to heal the wounds and ailments of suffering humanity. He was a strong believer in the teachings of Islam and all his life he tried to do all that was good for others.

Dr. Ghafoor was greatly respected and admired by his colleagues. His death is a great loss to his family, the country and the scientific world. Dr. Ghafoor is survived by his wife, 4 sons and 2 daughters.

A. Ghaffar and A. Kafi