

*In the memory of*  
**Professor Dr. Nagarajan Panchapagesan Ayyar**  
(July 31, 1930 - 27th May 1979)

Dr. Nagarajan Panchapagesan Ayyar, Professor of Geography and Head of the department, at Shivaji University, Kolhapur died on the 27th of May, 1979 after a short illness at hospital, Miraj, Maharashtra. In his death, India has lost one of its very distinguished sons, the geography world an eminent geographer, his friends a trusted colleague, and his students a very distinguished teacher. To the Institute of Indian Geographers, of which Dr. Ayyar, was a founder member and a pillar of strength, the loss is irreparable.

The 'Institute of Indian Geographers' very deeply mourns his death.

Dr. Ayyar was born at Madras on July 31, 1930. After a brilliant career at the P. S. High School, Madras, he joined Vivekanand College from where he passed both, the Intermediate and the B. Sc. (Hons) Examination in First Class, standing first in College. Subsequently, he took the Master's degree from the University of Madras. Dr. Ayyar joined Gauhati University as a Lecturer in 1952, and later the University of Saugar in 1955 as Asstt. professor, where he later became Reader in 1966. In September 1977, he joined the Shivaji University as Professor and Head of the Department of Geography, where he continued working till a week before his death.

Dr. Ayyar took his Ph. D. from the University of Saugar in 1961 and thereafter visited Britain as a Commonwealth Scholar to complete a one-year Diploma Course in Photogrammetry at University College, London. His interests were varied, and besides Photogrammetry, Dr. Ayyar worked in the field of Agricultural Geography, Population and Settlement Geography and Urban Geography. In these fields, he has over two dozen research papers to his credit. Before taking up Professorship at Shivaji, Dr. Ayyar together with two other colleagues edited the book, 'Essays in applied geography', a memorial volume dedicated to late professor S. M. Ali. Dr. Ayyar has guided a number of research students at the doctor's and Master's level. He was fellow of a number of learned bodies, research associations and geographical societies. Of the 'Institute of Indian Geographers' which has brought out the present volume, he was a founder member and a member of the Governing Council.

Dr. Ayyar would be ever remembered by all his students, colleagues, Professional friends and the members of the Institute of Indian Geographers for his noble gestures, friendly attitude, and dedication to geography.