

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR INDRA PAL (1927-1996)

Professor Indra Pal, former Professor and Head of the department of geography, Rajasthan University, died of cardiac arrest, on 11th Oct 1996, at Jaipur. He is served by his son who is settled at Jaipur and two daughters, both married and settled in USA. In his death, Indian geography has lost a very good teacher of geography, who promoted geography to its present status in Rajasthan.

Professor Indra Pal was born on 1st July, 1927 at Aligarh, the place where he completed his school and collegiate education and got his Ph. D. in Industrial geography, from the prestigious Aligarh Muslim University. He worked as a lecturer in D. S. College, Agra, K. N. Govt. College, Gyanpur, and then joined the University of Rajasthan as Reader and Head of the department in 1966, where he was promoted as a Professor in 1978, the position he held till his retirement in 1987. He was invited as a visiting Professor in Rhur University (Germany) in 1972, Aligarh Muslim University in 1989-90, and Allahabad University in 1991-92. During his long academic career, he authored 50 research papers and 10 books. He was recognized as a literary writer by *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Apart from post-graduate teaching programme, Prof. Indra Pal guided a large number of students in their M. Ph. and Ph. D. work. Besides developing the Geography

department at the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, he organized several conferences, workshops and seminars on various themes of geography. He attended a number of international conferences, notably these at Montreal (1972) Tokyo (1984) and Washington (1992). He was the founder member of the National Association of Geographies (NAGI), Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA) and the Institute of Energy and Environmental Studies:

He was on the academic bodies of many universities apart from working on various committees of UGC, UPSC, and other state level Public Service Commissions. After retirement in 1987, he founded the Asian Environment Council of which he was the Secretary General and the Chief Editor of its publications.

To geography in Rajasthan, Professor Indra Pal's death in an irreparable loss. His friends, admires and students will always remember him; and as for the geography department of Rajasthan University, it will always be indebted to him for his contributions to its development.

The Institute of Indian Geographers deeply mourns his death.

— H. S. Sharma
Jaipur.