

## IN MEMORIAM

**Professor B. G. Tamaskar**

(28<sup>th</sup> May 1917 – 10<sup>th</sup> September 1998)

I do not remember when I first met Prof. Tamaskar, but I am sure it was more than two decades ago. His lean figure, his enthusiasm and his quest for knowledge impressed me most. I was then a young teacher and he was a retired professor but when I told him I am interested in periodic markets he readily agreed to help. As a matter of fact he was considered an authority on the region Arvi Pleatau around and on periodic markets. Some times he would go down memory lane and tell us the difficulties he faced in getting leave for field work, typing, assistance, stationery, transport, funds etc, as he was a Government employee. But he was not bitter about it nor did this discourage him from taking up new and challenging projects.

Born in 1917, at Mungeli in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh he graduated from Hitakarini Mahavidyalaya, Jabalpur. After obtaining a post graduate diploma in Geography in 1939, in M.A. Geography (1956), M. D. Political Science (1942) and a B. Ed. in 1947, he started his teaching career in 1947 joining the Government Mahakushal Mahavidyalaya in 1947. After the reorganization of the state of Madhya Pradesh he was transferred to vidarbha Mahavidyalaya which became his 'Karmabhumi' for the next 25 years. Later he was transferred to Nagpur Mahavidyalaya. He retired in 1975 after making valuable contribution to research and teaching of Geography, Tamaskar

was awarded a fellowship by the U. G. C. for the period 1975-80.

A prolific writer, he has more than 150 research articles, published in national and international journals to his credit. He dealt mainly with theories related to historical, cultural, political and marketing geography. His nine books are a valuable contribution to the field of geography.

Professor Tamaskar also worked hard for the development of the Deccan Geographical Society and the Deccan Geographer. He was the founder member and past president of the Maharashtra Bhugol Shastra Parishad, Pune, and the chief editor of the Multilingual Journal Maharashtra Bhugolshashtra Sashodhan Patrika. For the last few years Prof. Tamaskar did not keep good health, having become weak and frail. Though he hardly went out of his house in Pune, where he had shifted after retirement, he still kept himself busy reading and writing about his lifetime interest 'Geography'.

Prof. Tamaskar passed away on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1998. In him we have lost a popular and benevolent teacher a scholar of distinction, who devoted his entire life to teaching, research and development of geography

The Institute of Indian Geographers deeply mourns his death.

— V. S. Datye