

## *Obituary*



**Professor R.L. Dwivedi**

(1924 - 2015)

A living encyclopedia of Geography, Prof. R.L. Dwivedi passed away on 16 December, 2015 after a short illness, only a few days before his 92nd birthday. Born on February 1, 1924 (Magha Krishna 11, Vikram Sambat 1980) he had his early education in Kanpur. Having graduated from D.A.V. College, Kanpur in 1948 as a meritorious student, he joined the University of Allahabad for Master Degree in Geography and earned the M.A. in 1950, and the same year he got appointed as lecturer in D.A.V. College, Kanpur. He joined as Lecturer in Geography in University of Allahabad in July 1955. Those were the days when Allahabad University was known as Oxford of East, and naturally, therefore, this was a great achievement. As his career progressed, he was appointed Reader in May 1970 and then Professor in November 1977. In between

he took over as the Head of Geography Department in August 1969 and occupied the post for 14 years. Prof. Dwivedi had all the qualities of a fine teacher. His lectures were looked forward to by the students. His simple solutions and easy explanations to different topics were much awaited.

In spite of the fact that he was puritan in his approach, he did not hesitate in reaching out the new frontiers of teaching and researches in Geography such as quantitative methods, urban and regional planning, electoral behaviour, and micro level planning. He was a wonderful teacher, administrator and colleague. He maintained harmonious relationship with teachers and staff. Even the younger colleagues did not hesitate in approaching him because he had been very courteous, polite and benevolent.

He was the member of various academic bodies of the U.P. Universities. He served as the member of Geography Panel of University Grants Commission in 1997 and made valuable contribution in the revision of the syllabi of National Education Test. Yet another valuable contribution of Professor Dwivedi to the advancement of Indian Geography which can never be forgotten is the publication of National Geographer by the Department which started in 1958, when Professor R.N. Dubey was its founder Head. But after the publication of volume

five in 1962, National Geographer went out of publication. When Professor Dwivedi took over as the Head of the Department in August, 1969, he made commendable effort to restart this publication in 1971, which he had edited himself. He has published 27 creative articles and research papers, besides three books. His book on political geography is most sought after by students.

Professor Dwivedi, who lived life on his own terms, will be fondly remembered for his contributions to the cause of geography.

Professor H. N. Mishra