

## **Professor D. S. Kalra**

(22-12-1922-18-4-2018)



**Dr Dharam Sarup Kalra** (96) was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1922 in Bhakkar village of Mianwali District (now in Pakistan). He passed his Matriculation from Bhakkar in 1940 and Intermediate from Rawalpindi in 1942. Thereafter he joined Lahore Veterinary College and obtained BVSc degree in 1946 from Panjab University, Lahore. After graduation he was appointed as Demonstrator of Pathology, Bacteriology and Parasitology at Veterinary College, Lahore. After partition, when camp Veterinary College started functioning at Hisar in February, 1948, Dr Kalra was appointed in the same capacity at Veterinary College, Hisar. On the basis of his work as Research Assistant under Mastitis Research Scheme, he was awarded MVSc degree in Pathology & Bacteriology by Panjab University, Solan. In August 1957, he was appointed as ADIO and later on in May 1960, as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology. In September 1963, he was deputed to Ohio State University, Columbus, USA for higher studies and was awarded PhD degree in March 1966.

Prof. Kalra's academic record has been excellent, securing first class division marks in all the University examinations—Matriculation, Intermediate, BVSc, and MVSc. In PhD program, he had point-hour ratio of 4.0 / 4.0, the maximum possible and was also conferred the membership of the Society of Phi-Zeta, an Honor Society of Veterinary Medicine in USA. On return from USA in March 1966, he was appointed as Associate cum HOD of Public Health. In April 1968 he became Professor of Pathology and in June 72, elevated to Senior Professor. In September 1979 he was appointed Dean, Veterinary College Hisar. In January 1980, he went to Iraq as a visiting Professor in the University of Baghdad and remained there up to June 1983. There besides teaching Preventive Medicine, Clinical Pathology and Public Health, he guided three MVSc students.

Prof. Kalra was actively involved in teaching and research for a long period of 49 years or so. He guided 24 students (12 PhD and 12 MVSc) and one for postdoctoral (PDF) research in Veterinary Public Health. One of his PhD students was awarded gold medal for his best thesis research. His students also retired at or holding higher position. Prof. Kalra was responsible for initiating the proposal for the establishment of Disease Investigation Laboratories in Haryana State, which proved boon to field vets as well as farmers. His main research contributions are in the field of mastitis, mycotoxicosis, horn cancer, pneumonia and brucellosis. He authored two books and published more than 120 research papers in Indian and foreign journals. He has also credit of investigating a disease of unknown etiology (degnala disease), affecting cattle and buffaloes in the rice growing areas.

On superannuation in December 1984, he was offered the position of Professor & Head, Veterinary Pathology in University of Maiduguri (Nigeria) at the maximum of Professor's salary. He worked in that capacity up to September 1995. There he developed teaching and research facilities, initiated post graduate program in Veterinary Pathology and guided three students for PhD degree.

Prof. Kalra has two sons, the elder one is Professor of Animal Breeding & Genetics at HAU, Hisar and younger one is Scientist F at the Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatics Plants, Lucknow. One of his nephew is CEO at Ayurved. Dr Kalra was settled at Hisar leading a peaceful retired life, provided professional help when asked for. He left heavenly abode on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 at Hisar. **Demise of veteran pathologist Dr Kalra is a great loss to IAVP and Pathology fraternity. His colleagues and students paid rich tribute to him on social media IAVP WhatsApp group. May God give peace to departed soul and strength to his grieved family.**