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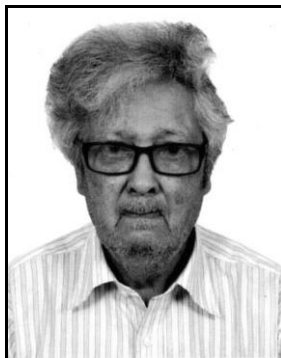
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To assist the referees, authors are requested to furnish copies of relevant unpublished or inaccessible references.

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## Late Professor Dr. Ajoy Kumar Roy (1935 - 2019)



Professor Dr. Ajoy Kumar Roy (A. K. Roy), 84, a brilliant physicist, freedom fighter, human right activist and freethinker was survived by one son and two grand children. His many friends, colleagues, students and relatives were saddened by the death of Professor Roy on 09 December, 2019. Appointed lecturer in Physics at Dhaka University in 1961 and retired in 2000, a total of 40 years, he spent as a teacher of the University. Thereafter, he was appointed as a University Grants Commission (UGC) Professor for two years.

Professor Roy's distinguished research covered solid state physics, crystallography and thin films. He collaborated with many academics and students. His book (with Professor Shamsul Hoque and Professor A K Rafiq Ullah) on electricity and magnetism was very popular among undergraduate students of physics and chemistry in the seventies and eighties of the last century.

Born in Dinajpur, Professor A. K. Roy studied at the Department of Physics, University of Dhaka and received his Bachelors and Masters degrees. He took his PhD degree from Leeds University, UK. His principle research interest was on "Electron Spin Resonance", which he applied in the field of Chemical Physics and Radiation Chemistry. He made fundamental contributions to the "Disassociative Electron Capture" process and his research findings answered questions like what happens to a captured electron within an organic molecule. After coming back to the Department, in 1968, Professor Roy established with the help of UNESCO, a research center at the University, "Advanced Center of Solid State Physics and Crystallography" in 1968-69.

Professor Roy was a leading, pragmatic and prominent scholar not only in physics but also in science and philosophy and also in Bengali literature. He actively participated in framing the policy of 1973 ordinance of Dhaka University. For the rapid transfer to a science and knowledge-based modern society, he led from the front a well educated group of people and fought for it throughout his life.

Professor Roy had been honoured with many awards and accolades. He was awarded the Jahanara Imam Memorial Award in 2007, Bangla Academy Fellowship Award in 2008, Asiatic Society Fellowship in 2009, Bangla Academy Literary Award in 2011 and the Ekushey Padak in 2012. Besides these, he had been elected as a Fellow of the Bangladesh Physical Society, a Fellow of the History Academy, the General Secretary of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh in 1972-73 and the General Secretary of the Dhaka University Teachers' Association after the liberation of Bangladesh.

He and Shefali Roy, his wife, were gifted with two sons, Avijit and Anujit. But a black shroud of grief fell upon him when his elder son Dr. Avijit Roy was killed by the extremists. He bore this heavy burden of sorrow till his death. Loss of a such a distinguished, brave and patriotic scholar like Professor A. K. Roy is irreparable. He leaves this world with few regrets, one of those is the delay of the justice in the case for the killing of his elder son, Avijit Roy.



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