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Quadrat-e-Khuda passes away

By A Staff Correspondent

Dr. Mohammad Quadrat-e-Khuda, celebrated scientist and educationalist died at the P. G. Hospital on Thursday afternoon. He was 77.

Dr. Khuda who had been suffering from cancer and diabetes was admitted to the P. G. Hospital on October 4 last. His wife was also under treatment at the hospital along with him.

There was some improvement in Dr. Khuda's condition but it started deteriorating on Wednesday evening and he was put under oxygen tent. He died at 4-15 p.m.

Mrs. Khuda who was also undergoing treatment at the hospital accompanied the body of her illustrious husband to their Dharmadip residence, His Namaze-Janaza will be held today (Friday) at the Dacca University mosque after Juma prayers.

The news of Dr. Khuda's death cast a pall of gloom in the city. It was a

shocking surprise to many of his relatives when they and other visitors who found the scientist dead. Some of the visitors included Professor Kabir Chowdhury, Mr. Abdul Khaleque, Secretary Sports and Cultural Affairs and close relatives of the scientist.

President and CMLA, Major-General Ziaur Rahman in a message on Thursday evening deeply condoled the death of Dr. Khuda.

Present at his death bed were Professor Nurul Islam, Director, ICGM and other attending doctors. Some of the kith and kin of the deceased scientist were also present when he died.

Education Professor Svend Ali, Ahsan went to the hospital after receiving the news. Professor Shamsul Haq, Presidential Adviser for Foreign Affairs and other close friends and

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admirers of Dr. Khuda went to his residence in the BSS to pay respect to his soul.

Dr. Khuda was taken by a heartrending with the wall dear and near of his relative wishers were the holy Qura body.

A large number of scientists including those coming to his school of Calcutta. Having an excellent academic career from his boyhood, Dr. Khuda passed matriculation examination in the First Division in 1919.

As brilliant student of Calcutta Presidency College and Calcutta University, Dr. Khuda was awarded the first class in chemistry in 1919. He was awarded the Premchand Rajchand scholarship and gold medal by the Calcutta University for his post-doctorate researches. He was the only Muslim in the sub-continent who was awarded these distinctions for his extraordinary academic career.

In 1929, Dr. Khuda obtained his B.Sc. and D.I.C. degrees from the University of London and Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. He joined Calcutta Presidency College as Professor of Chemistry in 1931 and became head of the department in 1936. Later Dr. Khuda became the Principal of the Presidency College, Dacca leaving for the then East Pakistan in 1949.

He represented Pakistan at the UNESCO conferences in 1949 and 1951 abroad. He was also appointed scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence, Government of Pakistan in 1949 and represented the country in different scientific conferences.

Dr. Khuda was also the Chairman of the Board of Secondary Education from 1952 to 1955 and a member of the Permanent Delegation to the Conference of Commonwealth Ministers of Education in 1952. An architect of former East Bengal National Laboratory (Science Laboratory), Dacca was appointed its director in January 1955 and retired in 1966.

Dr. Khuda was appointed Chairman of the Education Commission set up after independence. Apart from his contribution to the cause of education, Dr. Khuda was also the Chairman of the Education Commission set up after independence.

Quadrat-e-Khuda

Life-sketch

Born in a respectable Muslim family on December 1, 1900 (26 Baisakh 1307) at village Markram under Birbhum district of West Bengal, the eminent scientist, Dr. Mohammad Quadrat-e-Khuda had his early education at Markram High School and Woodburn M. E. School of Calcutta. Having an excellent academic career from his boyhood, Dr. Khuda passed matriculation examination in the First Division in 1919.

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He left behind two sons and four daughters. The eldest son, Dr. Mahabub-e-Khuda is a geologist and the second son, Dr. Manzoor-e-Khuda is a chemical scientist serving Dacca Science Laboratory.

A dedicated soul for the advancement of science, Dr. Khuda was also elected chairman of the Society for Arts and Philosophy in 1974. According to an assessment Dr. Khuda published more than 150 research works in the scientific journals of home and abroad. During the late sixties when attack was made on Bengali culture, the cultural organization in the country put up resistance under his leadership.

During his long 77 years lifetime, he was associated with a number of national and international educational and scientific bodies. He was a member of the Council of the International Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. Khuda was also the President of Pakistan lastly the President of Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Khuda was also the President of Bangladesh Academy and Chairman of the Central Board for the Development of Bengali.

Besides many of his fundamental contributions and inventions, Dr. Khuda made a lot for the country's students and teachers in publishing a book on organic chemistry in Bengali in 1966. While deeply associated with the Central Board of Development Board, he helped in the publication of a number of scientific books in Bengali for the higher studies. He had also written a text book on science for matric standard students which was prescribed for high schools of Bengal during the forties.

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