



Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji

(3rd September, 1940 - 12th February, 2021)

With a deep sense of grief, the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) informs the sad news of the demise of Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji around 11 pm on 12th February, 2020 at his residence in Delhi.

As a mark of respect to the departed soul, the ISS presents the following as its gratitude to the eminent service rendered to Indian Sociology and his contribution to the profession.

Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji was born in Gaya (3rd September, 1940) and began his career as a research scholar at the Gandhian Institute of Studies, Varanasi (1962-63). He taught at Patna University (1963-1970); was for a brief period a Research Scientist at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata (1967-68); then moved over to the Centre for Advanced Studies, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University (1970-72). He joined the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal University in the year the first batch of students at the Master's level was given admission. On being invited by the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, he joined as Professor in 1980 and subsequently moved over to its Planning Unit at New Delhi in December 1983. In 1996 he became the Director-Vice Chancellor of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. The Council for Social Development, New Delhi, offered him the position of Director, which he joined in November 1999. In 2001 he accepted the Senior Fellowship of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library and continued till September 2003 until he was invited to accept the S. K. Dey Chair instituted by the Ford Foundation at the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi. Finally, after six years (September 2009), he decided to work on his own. Recently, in September 2011, the Institute honoured him with the status of Professor Emeritus (Honorary), as a mark of appreciation of his valuable services to the Institute, which he gladly accepted.

Books authored/edited by him include *From Left Extremism to Electoral Politics* (1983), *Indian Sociology: Reflections and Introspections* with T. K. Oommen (1986), *People's Rights: Social Movements and the State in the Third World* with Manoranjan Mohanty (1998), *Sociology in South Asia: Heritage and Challenges* with Jacob Aikara, Chandan Sengupta (1998), *Methodology in Social Research* (2000) and *Indigeneity and Universality in Social Science: A South Asian Response* with Chandan Sengupta (2004)

His areas of research interest include: social movements (including Gandhian and Maoist movements and peasant movements); gender concern; democratic decentralisation; research methodology; sociology of rural labour, international migration. He was the Prime Minister's nominee to the Advisory Board, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, (1999-2002); served as Member, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Technology Awards Selection Committee (2000- 2002).

His service as Secretary (1988-89) and President (2004-05) in our ISS was distinctive in every respect to make it a professional and world-renowned organisation of Indian Sociologists.

Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian Sociological Society in 2013. He will be long remembered for his seminal role in reinventing, reorienting and modernising Indian Sociology as a popular subject of study and profession.

As a person, Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji was simple, humble, amiable, humane and disciplined in nature. His death is the culmination of an era in Indian Sociology and ISS has lost a first-generation pioneering sociologist which has created a vacuum. Indian sociologists will remain indebted to the epoch-making contributions of Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji.

Accordingly, Indian Sociological Society salutes the great sociologist Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji, who will remain with us always in our thoughts and deeds.

The President, Secretary, Treasurer, Members of MC and Conveners and Co-conveners of RCs, Editors, Editorial Board and Advisory Committee members of Sociological Bulletin, *Bhartiya Samajshastra Sameeksha*, E- Journal, E-Newsletter,

and all Members of Indian Sociological Society (ISS).