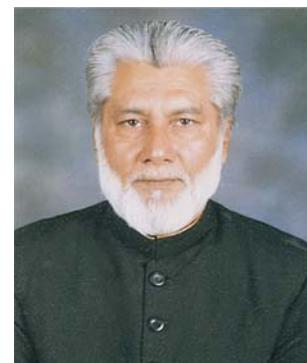




## Obituary

### Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal (1942-2014)



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal was born in Lahore (British India) on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1942. He was elected Fellow of the *Pakistan Academy of Sciences* in 1990. Lately, he was working as Rector, Superior University, Raiwind Road, Lahore. He obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in 1960 and 1962, respectively, from University of the Punjab, Lahore. In 1970, he got his Ph.D. from University of Bristol, UK. He worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow in University of Georgia, Athens, USA from 1976 to 1978.

During his illustrious career, Dr Zafar Iqbal held various positions, including Registrar, University of Health Sciences, Lahore; Acting Vice Chancellor, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Director of Institute of Chemistry, and Dean of Faculty of Science, at University of the Punjab; Demonstrator, Chemistry Department, University of Bristol, UK; and Acting Chairman, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Lahore.

In view of his significant contributions in the field of higher education, Prof. Zafar Iqbal earned many honors and awards which included *Sitara-i-Imtiaz*; *Tamgha-i-Imtiaz*; Albert Einstein World Award of Science, Germany; Best Teacher Award by University Grants Commission; Open Gold Medal by *Pakistan Academy of Sciences*; Prize by National Book Council, Govt. of Pakistan; First Prize by Pakistan Writers Guild; Medal by Science Forum, Lahore; World Cultural Council Award for contributions in Science; and Cash award as Distinguished Scientist by Ministry of Education, Govt. of Pakistan.

Prof. Zafar Iqbal was Life Member of Pakistan Institute of Chemists, Chemical Society of Pakistan, and Pakistan Association for Advancement of Science; and Member of Scientific Society of Pakistan, and Energy Society of Pakistan. He was Fellow of Pakistan Institute of Chemists, Royal Society of Chemists, UK, and Pakistan Chemical Society. Currently, he was President of Pakistan Institute of Chemists.

Prof. Zafar Iqbal's areas of research included Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry with special interest in Organometallic and Coordination Compounds, and Environmental Pollution of Air, Water and Food. He published a number of research papers both in national and international journals of repute. Also, he authored a number of books in the area of Chemistry. As evidenced by his book "*Quran-e-Hakeem aur Science*" (in Urdu) published in 2010, Prof. Zafar Iqbal also had a good knowledge and commitment towards the region.

I had known Prof. Zafar Iqbal personally since 1960 when he was a student of M.Sc. at Institute of Chemistry, University of the Punjab. After his appointment as Lecturer at the same Institute, I had the chance to interact with him quite frequently as my junior colleague in the University. He rose gradually from the rank of Lecturer to Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, and Dean of Faculty of Sciences by his sheer devotion and hard work. He was a good teacher and was quite popular among students, particularly those who worked under him as researchers.

Temperamentally, Prof. Zafar Iqbal was a social

person, who could pull on nicely with his juniors and seniors. He possessed cool temperament, smiling face, and decent manners. He will never like to offend anybody.

In the death of Prof. Zafar Iqbal, Pakistan in general and *Pakistan Academy of Sciences* in particular have lost an eminent chemist. May the Almighty Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and give fortitude to his family to bear this irreparable

loss! Amin.

In the end, I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to Dr. Abdul Rashid, FPAS, and Editor-in-Chief of the PAS Journal, in the preparation of this script.

**Prof. Dr. M. D. Shami, SI**  
Vice President,  
Pakistan Academy of Sciences