

OBITUARY



**Dr. Dinesh Chandra Mishra
(1943-2018)**

With great sorrow, we report the unfortunate demise of Dr. Dinesh Chandra Mishra, a renowned geoscientist, on 29th January 2018 in Hyderabad. On this fatal day, his family members were beside him. He is survived by a wonderful and amazing family with wife Neelima, who has been a most devoted companion. They were the best example of a couple made for each other. His son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren were very affectionate to him, as were his daughter, son-in-law and their two children. They all took exceptional care of him during his recurring health problems. It has been a great loss to the family, associates and well-wishers. We are particularly indebted to him because he not only nurtured our professional carrier but also rendered personal guidance.

Dr. D. C. Mishra was born on 1st July 1943 in Deoria, Uttar Pradesh and completed M.Sc. (Geophysics) in 1963 at Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, India. He worked on rock magnetism for his doctoral research at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay, and was awarded a Ph.D. in 1966 from B.H.U. at a very young age. After a brief teaching occupancy as a lecturer in the Department of Geophysics, BHU, he joined National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad as a post-doctoral fellow and later as scientist in 1968. Since then, he served in various capacities at NGRI and finally superannuated as Director's grade scientist in 2003. After retirement, he continued his research at NGRI as emeritus scientist and as principal investigator, supported by CSIR and MoES respectively, till 2013. He had a passion and enthusiasm for potential field geophysics. During his illustrious carrier, he collaborated with renowned earth scientists in India and abroad. During the early stage of his carrier, he visited Federal Institute of Geosciences, Hannover, Germany and the Department of Geophysics, University of Aarhus, Denmark as a post-doctoral fellow to work with Prof. Hahn and Prof. Pederson, respectively on the utility of spectral analysis in interpretation of geopotential data. These associations have been very rewarding. He became the ardent follower of this technique, as is demonstrated by his large number of publications on the subject. He was associated with airborne magnetic surveys and modelling of satellite magnetic data before heading the gravity and magnetic study group of NGRI.

During the research carrier, spanning for almost 50 years, he contributed significantly to Earth Sciences, particularly Geophysics. He guided and participated in the airborne magnetic and ground gravity surveys in different parts of the country. He was the chief coordinator for the publication of new gravity map series of India-2006, which is one of the most cited base map by the geoscientists involved in geo-

tectonics and resource exploration. Ten Ph.Ds. were awarded under his guidance from various universities. He was a prolific writer and published more than 150 peer reviewed scientific papers and was credited with more than 25 technical reports on 'Integrated Exploration for Geodynamics and Resources'. During 1989, he co-authored a book with I. V. Radhakrishna Murthy on 'Interpretation of gravity and magnetic anomalies in space and frequency domains' as a monograph published by Association of Exploration Geophysicists, which till today is very useful for the students. During the concluding years of his career, he wrote a comprehensive book on "Gravity and Magnetic Methods for Geological Studies: Principles, Integrated Exploration and Plate Tectonics" published by BSR publications in 2011. This book is very useful for researchers and students. With all his contributions, he is known as the founding father of potential field geophysics in India. He was an ardent supporter of plate tectonics and effectively utilized this concept to interpret the geopotential data for understanding the geodynamics and geotectonics of the Indian subcontinent. He always believed in integration of geophysical data and therefore his thoughts were always contemporary.

Dr. Mishra was an active member of the international committee on integrated exploration programme on 'Geotransects' and a fellow of the Indian Geophysical Union and Association of Exploration Geophysics, India. For his excellent contributions, Dr. Mishra was awarded National Mineral Award for the year 1996 by the Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India, Business Development Award of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), 1997 and Decennial award by the Indian Geophysical Union in 2003.

He had a positive frame of mind, a pleasing personality and was a well-wisher of everyone. He will long be remembered with affection by all his associates. His goodness and loving regard for everyone will endure for a long time to come. It is a bliss to have been associated with such a wonderful person and to have been elated by the several opportunities of sharing our thoughts with him. We all miss a great educator, a motivator and above all a mentor, who was always humble enough in not allowing his magnanimity and enormity to be reflected in his personality.

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