



Dr. Ramesh Moreshwar Badve
(1937- 2021)

Dr. Ramesh Moreshwar Badve, a pioneering and very versatile paleontologist, micropaleontologist and stratigrapher of our country was born on 26th February 1937 at village Mandavgan, Tehsil Shrigonda, District Ahemdnagar of Maharashtra. Dr. Badve left for his heavenly abode on 26 January 2021 at Pune.

At an age of three, Dr. Badve had lost his father and had early education at his native place. He joined Fergusson College, Pune in 1957 and obtained B.Sc. with geology and biology as principal subjects. Dr. Badve acquired M.Sc. in geology from University of Pune in 1961. Around 1965, Late Prof. Gangadhar Wasudeo Chiplonkar joined Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science (MACS), Pune which nowadays also known as Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune to establish a research Department devoted to palaeontology. In 1966 Dr. Badve joined research at MACS and was awarded Ph.D. degree of Pune University for the thesis "Stratigraphy and Palaeontology of the Bagh Beds" in 1972 under the guidance of Prof. Chiplonkar. In 1975, Dr. Badve joined MACS as staff member of Geology and Palaeontology Department.

The academic contributions made by Dr. Badve during the service tenure are very significant. Work on the Bagh trace fossils was pioneering in Indian context; followed by extensive studies of ichnofaunas from Kachchh, Gujarat and other areas. Dr. Badve initially gave emphasis on the revision of mega invertebrates however, to impart wider visibility to the Department, he initiated research on calcareous algae, palaeopalynology and bryozoa to develop expertise in these microfossil groups.

Dr. Badve was one of the pioneering and very versatile paleontologists, micropaleontologists and stratigraphers of our country

who had immensely contributed on ichnofossils; megafossil groups such as bivalves, gastropods, echinoids, cephalopods, etc and microfossil groups like calcareous algae, bryozoa, pollen and spores, etc. from Indian sedimentary sequences of different ages. Six students including writer of this Obituary were awarded Ph.D. from Pune University under the guidance of Dr. Badve.

As Convener Dr. Badve had organized X Indian Colloquium on Micropaleontology and Stratigraphy at Pune and in 1984, Dr. Badve along with Drs. V.D. Borkar, M.A. Ghare and C. Rajshekhar edited the Colloquium volume containing 50 peer reviewed research papers. Under Exchange program of Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi and Royal Society, London, Dr. Badve visited the Natural History Museum, London in 1991 and conducted research on bryozoa. Dr. Badve was a life member of Geological Society of India, Bangalore; Gondwana Geological Society, Nagpur; Paleontological Society of India, Lucknow; Maharashtra Academy of Sciences, Pune and Marathi Vidyan Parishad. Dr. Badve worked on various academic bodies of the Pune University and also worked as a contributory teacher in the Department of Geology, Pune University.

After superannuation, Dr. Badve was actively engaged in geological consultations offering services in mineral investigation, engineering geology, geohydrology, etc. and making significant contributions on the Holocene bryozoans from the West Coast of our country. Dr. Badve is survived by his wife, son and daughter.

*PG Dept of Geology, RTM Nagpur
University, Nagpur - 440 001
E: pradeepkunal@gmail.com*

PRADEEP KUNDAL

DOI: 10.1007/s12594-021-1770-7