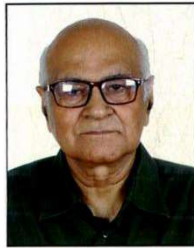


NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS, INDIA (NAGI)

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BHOOGOL VACHASPATI AWARD



Prof. M.H. Qureshi

Born in 1942 in a village of Sultanpur district, U.P., Mohammad Hashim Qureshi was introduced to Arabic and Urdu in the village Madarsa at a tender age before joining the Primary school for formal education. He completed his 8th grade with distinction in English, Sanskrit and Maths. He completed his B.A. and M.A. degrees at the University of Allahabad in 1957-60. After working as a lecturer in Geography in St. John's College, Agra in 1961, he moved to the Department of Geography, University of Jodhpur as a lecturer. At this university he completed his Ph.D degree under the supervision of Dr. Vinod C. Mishra.

After completing his doctoral degree he shifted to the Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He was invited by the University of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) in 1981 as Associate Professor and returned to JNU after 2 years. He has served the J.N.U. as Professor during 1991-2008. He was also invited as Visiting Professor by Bremen University, Bremen (Germany) for a semester in 1995-96.

The research interests of Prof. Qureshi centred on Economic Geography in general and Agricultural Geography in particular. He has published about 50 articles in journal as well as chapters in books. Five of his articles were published in reputed International Journals such as Environmental Management (Massachusetts U.S.A) and Environmental Conservation (Cambridge University Press, U.K.). He has supervised Ph.D. theses of 19 research scholars. He has authored or edited 10 books. As Chief Advisor of the text books development committee of NCERT, he coordinated the task of text book development of geography as part of Social Sciences for IX and X classes. He has been a very active academician and is life member of a number of professional associations. He was president of National Association of Geographers, India in 2010, and Institute of Indian Geographers, Pune in 2015-16.

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After retirement from J.N.U in 2008, Prof Qureshi joined UGC as Consultant and served in that capacity till November 2010. He was offered Abdul Majeed Khwaja Chair instituted by the Ministry of Culture, in Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi (1922-25). In Jamia Millia Islamia, Prof. Qureshi was associated with the Department of Geography as well as the Centre for the Study of Comparative Religions and Civilization. He published 5 books and 2 monographs during 4 years of his Chair Professorship.

His knowledge of Arabic and Sanskrit ignited his interest in the study of commonalities among various religions. He has been writing and speaking about communal harmony and national integration in different fora. He believes that pluralism is the strength of Indian society and it should be celebrated.

In recognition of his seminal contribution to Geography, the National Association of Geographers, India (NAGI) honours him with the award of BHOOGOL VACHASPATI at its 37th Indian Geography Congress held at University of Jammu, Jammu on December 2, 2015.



Secretary General
NAGI