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Prof (Dr.) U. Murali Krishna

(25th December 1933 to 12th February 2021)

School of Chemistry, Andhra university, Visakhapatnam

Muralikrishna was born on 25th December, 1933 as the fourth son to Sri Upaldhyayula Satyanarayana and Srimati Annapurna. Sri Satyanarayana was post-graduate in History, served in education department and retired as DEO in Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Muralikrishna had his primary and secondary school education in different parts of Andhra Pradesh as his father was moving because of transfers in his career. Sri Muralikrishna chose chemistry in as major subject in BSc(Hons) since this course had plenty of opportunities in basic research, as well as in pharmaceutical industry. Then, he opted M.Sc. by research and entered in Ph.D. program (New analytical applications of Potassium dichromate and sodium vanadate) in Andhra University under the guidance of eminent chemist Prof GandikotaGapala Rao. He joined teaching faculty of department of chemistry, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in 1956 as a demonstrator. Subsequently he rose to the positions of lecturer and Reader in the then existing three-tiered academic teaching position ladder in Indian universities. In 1982, Dr Murali Krishna was promoted to the rank of Professor and moved to Andhra University Post graduate extension (AU PGE) center at Nuzvid as Head of Dept. He served as special officer of the center during the period 1984-1986 besides his academic and research chores. Prof Murali Krishna opted professorship at dept of chemistry, Andhra university in early nineties when Nuzvid PG center was merged with Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur.

The research programs of Prof (Dr) Murali Krishna, Upadhyula (popularly referred as UMK) were diverse, but yet deep rooted in basic science with an under flowing current of arriving at truth of truth through chemical probes. He published over one hundred research papers in international primary journals; K V Bapaniah (Associate professor, M R college, Vijayanagaram), N Someswara Rao (Professor, School of Chemistry, Andhra Univ.), G V Ramanadham (Professor, GITAM), M Suryanarayana (Scientist F, DRDL Galior), Mannam Krishna Murthy (Chief Executive Dean, Varsity Education Management (P)Ltd), Karra Subrahmanyam (Ass.Prof. AVN college, Visakhapatnam) K Seshatapla Sai and K Raghuram (Associate professor, M R college, Vijayanagaram) were a few who got their doctorate degrees under his academic research stewardship. The disciplines close to his mind are redox chemistry, Chemical kinetics in solution phase, charge transfer complexes in non-aqueous solvents, chemistry of unusual oxidation states of transition metal ions and chemometrics. He inspired colleagues and researchers to probe into nano-chemistry and

mathematical models to augment experimental results in the next decades to go up by leaps and bounds.

In the year 2008, Prof UMK and Dr G Raghurama Rao, former professor of Dermatology, KGH planned and played key role in the birth centenary celebration of Prof G Gopala Rao conducted by the school of chemistry, AU. Prof Murali Krishna was sectional president/ scientist-in-charge, chairperson, plenary/invited speaker in symposia organized by Indian Council of chemists, Indian Chemical Society, and Indian Society for analytical chemists. He was mentor in the true sense to all academically deserving students and colleagues. He suggested “ Journal Applicable Chemistry” to this e-journal and I am ever and ever grateful for the apt title.

Murali Krishna's elder brothers are U.V.Ramanayya, Assistant Registrar, Andhra University, U.Setha Madhava Rao, District Judge. and Dr. U.Visweswara Rao, chemical industrialist in U.S. Dr Murali Krishna married Satya Vani (daughter of Sri Ganti Jagannatha Sastry, Sarasbhai-sqibb, Madurai and Smt.Suryakantamma) and they have two sons Srinivas Ramesh and Srinivas Rajesh; both settled well in life. Sri AV Ramana, Associate professor in chemistry of DAR college, Nuzvid provided glimpses of information.

After a brief illness, UMK garu left the mother earth on 12-02-2021 to heavenly abode.

The sparkles of his brain and humane glow will inspire the biological and academic families.

Om Santi, Santi, Santi

(Prof Kaza Somasekhara Rao)

Founder, Editor-in-Chief