

- Obituary



Prof. Dr. Syed Hadiuzzaman
(1940-2023)

Professor Dr. Syed Hadiuzzaman, son of Syed Abul Hashem and Nurunnesa Khatun, was born on 2 March 1940 in Khulna.

Professor Hadiuzzaman obtained his M.Sc. degree with First Class in 1963 from the Department of Botany, University of Dhaka. In 1964, he was appointed as a Lecturer in the same department. A renowned expert of higher cryptogams, Professor Hadiuzzaman obtained his Ph.D. Degree from the Department of Botany, University of Glasgow, Scotland in 1973. In 1985, he was appointed as Professor of Botany of the University of Dhaka. He retired in 2007 and was reappointed as a Supernumerary Professor of the department for 2009-2014.

Affectionately praised and remembered by his former students for his highly accurate and colourful illustrations of bryophytes and pteridophytes, Professor Hadiuzzaman was an excellent teacher as well as a fantastic supervisor for carrying out research works. He supervised many M.Sc., M.Phil. and eleven Ph.D. students during his illustrious academic career. He reported a significant number of *Riccia* species as new to science from Bangladesh. He published around 50 research articles in peer-reviewed journals, including four on *Bryum capillare* Hedwig in the *Journal of Bryology*.

In 1982, Professor Hadiuzzaman received a post-doctoral fellowship from the British Technical Assistance Program and carried out research in Plant Protoplast and Tissue Culture (September 1982-August 1983) at the University of Nottingham, U.K. He successfully participated in a workshop on Biotechnology at the University of Tsukuba, Japan in 1986 and attended a workshop on Plant Genetic Engineering, sponsored by the Department of Botany in collaboration with ICGEB, New Delhi, in 1993.

During 1981-1983, Professor Hadiuzzaman served as a Senate Member of the University of Dhaka. He actively led the Department of Botany as Chairman (1993-1996). He was the Director of Biotechnology Research Centre (1997-1999) and Director of Arboriculture of the University of Dhaka for a long time. He showed very good perception and ideas about landscape designing, and have an excellent culturally oriented mind.

Professor Hadiuzzaman was the Chief Editor of Bangladesh Journal of Botany (1993-1996) and Editor of the Dhaka University Journal of Biological Sciences (1997-1999). He was the President of the Bangladesh Botanical Society (2015-2017) and of Bangladesh Association of Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology. He co-authored a number of widely read textbooks in biology at undergraduate level. Professor Hadiuzzaman served as a member of the Editorial Boards of Bangladesh Journal of Botany, Bangladesh Journal of Plant Taxonomy, Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, and Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology. He is the Life Member of the Bangladesh Association for the Advancement of Science (BAAS), Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Botanical Society, and Bangladesh Association of Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology, and a founding Vice-President of Bangladesh Association of Plant Taxonomists.

Professor Khaleda Afza, wife of Professor Hadiuzzaman, is a retired Professor of Botany of Central Women's College, Dhaka. Their daughters are well-established in their own fields: the eldest one now resides in the USA, while the youngest in Canada.

He is laid to rest in the graveyard at Khulna. May Almighty Allah rest his department soul in eternal peace and place in Zannatul Ferdous. Ameen