

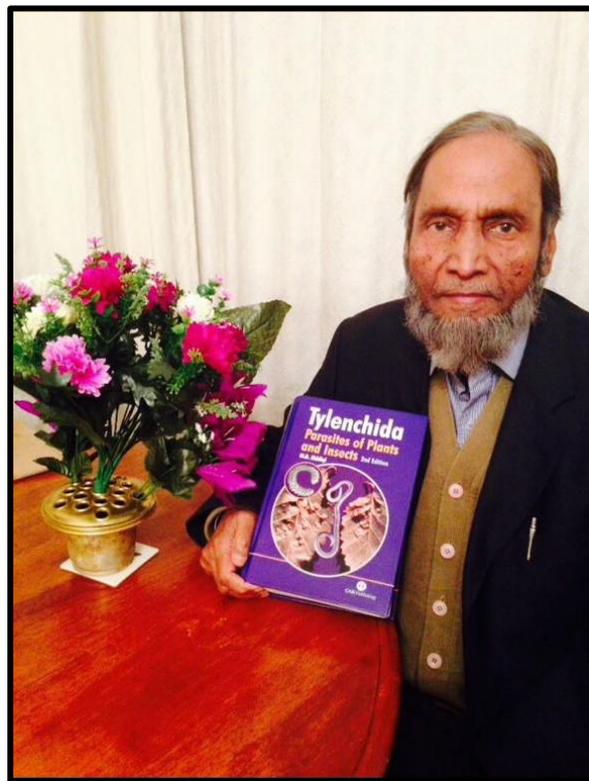
# ***PSN NEWS LETTER***

*A Biannual Publication of Pakistan Society of Nematologists*

## **SPECIAL MEMORIAL ISSUE**

### **2018**

**TRIBUTE TO A WORLD RENOWNED  
NEMATOLOGIST**



**Dr. Mohammad Rafiq Siddiqi  
(1934-2017)**

Dr. Mohammad Rafiq Siddiqi, one of the worldwide renowned scientists and eminent nematode taxonomist in the history of the discipline, and an internationally recognized authority in nematology, passed away peacefully on 25 August 2017 after a short illness. He was 83 years old.

Dr. Mohammad Rafiq Siddiqi, S/O Mohammad Salim Siddiqi, a district lawyer and alumnus of Allahabad University, was born at Tarahuan village, Karwi, Uttar Pradesh, India, on 6 May 1934.

He graduated in 1953 from Agra University, received his M. Sc. in Zoology (Parasitology) in 1955 from Aligarh Muslim University, and was awarded Gold Medal for obtaining first position. Dr. Siddiqi earned his Ph.D. on the studies of “Plant-parasitic nematodes of Uttar Pradesh (North India)” in 1960 and his D.Sc. on plant-parasitic and soil nematodes in 1966 from the Aligarh Muslim University, India, with nematology pioneer Prof. Dr. M.A. Basir as his mentor and advisor. In 1967 he began his internationally influential career as a Principal Nematologist at CAB International Institute of Parasitology (IIP) in St. Albans, UK where he served until his retirement in 1994. He also collaborated closely with the nematology unit at Rothamsted Experimental Station in nearby Harpenden, and acted as consulting Nematologist at Rothamsted for over ten years after his retirement from IIP.

Dr. Siddiqi then started his post-retirement research work at the Nematode Taxonomy Laboratory at his home in 24 Brantwood Road, Luton, UK. Two research microscopes he had worked with while on service with CABI were loaned to him and he continued to work on sampling and identifying nematodes until the very end, 23 years after officially retiring.

He served as a consultant advisor to several countries including Australia, Malaysia and Colombia. He attended several international meetings and symposia, and lectured on nematology in several countries, taking part in the presentation of short training courses and radio-TV discussion programmes.

In 1991, he started a Nematological Journal, the Afro-Asian Journal of Nematology (AAJN) and was the founder president of the Afro-Asian Society of Nematologists for 18 years. The AAJN became the International Journal of Nematology in 1997. Dr. Siddiqi’s monograph “*Tylenchida: Parasite of Plant and Insects*” is a desk-top text book of all the Nematologists of the world and was given the accolades of a “Milestone of Nematology” by I. Andrassy and “Taxonomist Bible for the Tylenchida” by E. Geraert.

During his long-term scientific activity, Dr. Siddiqi had published more than 300 research papers in the reputed journals of the world on the systematic, morphology and evolution of plant and soil nematodes of the orders, Tylenchida, Aphelenchida, Dorylaimida and Mononchida, Triplonchida, Alaimida, Diplogastrida etc. that included one new subclass, 15 new orders, eight new superfamilies, 31 new families, 31 new subfamilies, 248 new genera, and 671 new species and subspecies of Nematoda. In addition, two new genera and 28 new species of Nematoda have been named after Dr. Siddiqi for his distinguished contributions to Nematology.

He was active in the International promotion of Nematological research, serving on editorial boards, chairing conferences sessions, being involved in research and training courses in UK, India, Pakistan, Malaysia and contributing to radio and television programs on science. During his long and active scientific career, Dr. Siddiqi had made significant contribution to research in Plant Nematology which is reflected by the number of honours awarded to him. He was elected Fellow of the Institute of Biology in 1982 and Fellow of the Linnaean Society of London in 1984. As well as being the Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Nematology, he was an Editorial Board Member of Nematological Abstracts, Nematologia Mediterranea, and the Pakistan Journal of Nematology.

Aside from the colossal output of nematology work, he also found time to translate and interpret the Holy Qur'an, coming up with hypotheses that only space and time can validate. He pored for years over other Qur'anic translations and spent time reading books on quantum physics and cosmology. He thought that the word of the Almighty was compatible with science and the Universe theories.

Dr. Siddiqi will always be remembered in the entire nematology community for inspiring us with his engaging personality, teaching abilities, inquisitive mind, scientific expertise, and tireless dedication to the development of nematology.

"Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Elahe Rajaoon - Surely we belong to Allah and to Him shall we return"

President  
Pakistan Society of Nematologists  
Prof. Dr. Manzoor H. Soomro

## **CONDOLENCE MESSAGES received by his family**

On behalf of the Pakistan Society of Nematologists and Staff of the National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi, we share the deep sorrow of all colleagues of the science research community of Pakistan for the sudden demise of Dr. Siddiqi. We are deeply saddened by the loss of your beloved father, the world renowned Nematologist. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Words really fail to express our feelings of grief at the news of your father's death; words cannot begin to express the sadness you are feeling right now, but at this difficult time in your life, we are here and are praying for you that Allah will grant the serenity and peace that you need to get through this. Allah bless you and may the soul of your beloved father rest in the everlasting peace of Almighty Allah, Ameen!

The passing of Dr. Siddiqi is not only a big loss for those who have known him but for the entire research community. Due to the passing away of Dr. Siddiqi, NNRC as well as researchers in other countries of the world, has lost an outstanding Nematologist and a dynamic researcher, who was always there with helping hands, fantastic coordinator, a gentle man and a nice human being. Those of us who were lucky to know him will always remember his kind and warm character as a great Nematologist. He was selfless, devoted, honest and pragmatic. We recognize him as a keen person, devoted to the promotion of nematological research in the underdeveloped countries. No one can fill this gap. May Allah accept his unremitting endeavors in the advancement of Nematology. It is a great pity to lose such a very active and valuable eminent Nematologist. Dr. Siddiqi contributed a lot to the discipline of Nematology in Pakistan. He had a long-standing association with the Centre. Whenever, he came to Karachi he always met us with love and kind-hearted friendship which was a characteristic of his personality. He will be greatly missed for a long-time to come. He will be fondly remembered by all us and those who had the pleasure to know him and work with him.

May Allah Almighty bless the departed soul through His infinite mercy with eternal peace and give courage and fortitude to his family, friends and the scientific community to bear this irreparable loss, Ameen!

**Prof. Dr. Shahina Fayyaz  
and the NNRC Team, Karachi, Pakistan**

Dear Safia,

There are no words to express my sorrow on the sad demise of Dr. Sahib. He was a gem of a person always very loving and kind with me, may God give him jannat, Ameen. Both your parents were superb. I got your email address from Dr. Handoo. I lost my brother in law Brig. Shamshad Khan on 15 August. Please convey my condolences to Somaiya, Salma and the rest siblings. Fond regards

**Dr. Aly Khan**  
Crop Diseases Research Institute  
P.A.R.C  
University of Karachi  
Karachi, 75270

Dear Madam,

We were very shocked after hearing sudden death of the founder member of our organization, father of Indian Nematology, well known Nematologist of world and your beloved father also. As you know very well that Dr. M.R. Siddiqi always loved his country, India as native place.

We are establishing a Nematological Library in the honor & memory of Dr. M.R. Siddiqi at the Bioved Research Institute of Agriculture & Technology, Allahabad, India, a research wing of the Bioved Research Society. We are giving Dr. M.R. Siddiqi a Medal in his honor as a research scientist who has made outstanding contribution in the field of nematology, in our Congress organized in the mid-month of February in each year since last 20 years continuously.

Your father and mother always visited our place whenever they came to India. With their blessings & cooperation, we are establishing a single window center for sustainable agriculture in own purchased 50 acre land situated at Allahabad-Lucknow highway in the name of Bioved Krishi Prodyogiki Gram, Mohrab, Sringerpur, Allahabad.

Thanking you with regards

Yourssincerely

**Dr. B.K. Dwivedi,**

Allahabad,

India

Dear Safia

I came to know about Uncle's passing away yesterday evening and we are shocked. Shachi joins me in sharing our condolences with you and the entire family. We always felt deeply from our hearts that both Uncle and Auntie were an integral part of our family. For us, both your parents have been the nicest human beings we came across. Uncle's guidance and blessings have been a great motivating factor to me both professionally and personally, for which I have no words to describe. I will treasure all the memories and time spent with him. May God rest his soul in peace.

Please offer my condolences to everyone in your family.

Regards,

**Dr Sharad Mohan**

Principal Scientist

Division of Nematology Indian Agricultural Research Institute

New Delhi 110012

India

The members of the Faculty of Life Sciences deeply mourn the sad demise of Dr. Mohammad Rafiq Siddiqi on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2017. Dr. Siddiqi pioneered research on the taxonomy of plant and soil nematodes in India and rose to international fame. He served briefly as a Lecturer in the Department of Zoology and a Scientific Officer in the Department of Botany before joining CAB, in UK. His monumental works on nematode taxonomy brought him worldwide fame and recognition. His book “Tylenchida: Parasites of Plants and Insects” is now a standard reference in Nematology laboratories around the world. His passion for research was so intense that he continued working by setting up his own laboratory at home after retirement. We place on record the services he rendered to the university in particular and to the science of Nematology in general, which will be remembered, appreciated and referred for long times to come. We pray for his Magfirah, may Allah give eternal peace to his soul and provide solace to the bereaved family.

**Prof. S. A. Naqvi** Chairperson, Dept. Of Zoology  
Aligarh Muslim University, India

We are very saddened to hear the sad demise of Dr. Rafiq sahab. It is an irreparable loss to all of us, the family members, fellow Nematologists, colleagues and friends. I understand that being eldest daughter, you will have to act as guardian of all your sisters and brother. As I have always said, Rafiq sahab was like father figure to me, I am at loss because I lost one of my guardians. Any how this is life and one or the other day everyone has to face this. I lost my father 30 years back and my mother two year back. Today we had a condolence meeting in the department of Zoology, I am attaching herewith the condolence message. Although this just a formal letter but please do keep in touch with us. We have to continue the Journal which he started. We will discuss about it at a later date.  
best wishes

**Prof. Wasim Ahmad**  
Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences  
Aligarh Muslim University

I, Ekramullah Khan, wife Rupa EKRAM along with our son, daughters their spouses and grandchildren living in Ohio, USA, we all join in sending our heartfelt Condolences, grief & sincere feelings of sadness & Sorrow on Demise& sudden passing away of our Respected Teacher, mentor and close friend and learned guide to his heavenly abode. We most sincerely pray Allah to give late Dr. Siddiqi a place in Jannatul-Fridaus and give strength to you all to bear with this irreparable loss.

I came in touch with Dr. Siddiqi when I joined my PhD degree Program in the Department of Zoology, AMU in 1960 and I was assigned to work& learn in Dr. Siddiqi's Lab and from that date till I completed & finished my PhD Thesis in Plant Nematode in 1964, I remained in close association of Dr. Siddiqi. Right from the beginning of my research program till I received my degree I remained with Dr. Rafiq In most of the day time & I stayed & learned

from him as he was the nicest & most knowledgeable person who encouraged and provided me with all the desired knowledge and technical know-how required to complete my Thesis. I will always remain in his debt for grooming me to achieve whatever positions I got in my career as Nematologist for which I will always remain grateful & thankful to him. With sincere regards to late Dr. Siddiqi, may Allah give him a place in Jannatul-Firdaus. Amen

**Ekramullah Khan**

2446 Tarpon Bay Drive,  
Miamisburg,  
OHIO-45342, USA

I was very sorry indeed to hear of the passing of your father, the Siddiqi that I knew so well but, sadly, so many years ago. My thoughts are with you at this time as the loss of a parent strikes one very hard, whenever it happens. Your father was special and not only as a dedicated scientist. His profound interest in people and his caring nature for all whom he met was his enduring character. As a scientist, a Nematologist, he left a legacy that will last long past our time.

As a person, his warmth and caring nature ensured that all those who met him were themselves warmer and better members of society. Treasure his memory and love, Safia, may it be with you always.

My commiseration to you and your family,

**John Webster**

Vancouver, Canada

I grieve together with you concerning death of your father. Your father was very talented scientist and forever remains in the annals of nematology.

Sincerely Yours,

**Vladimir Gagarin**

Russia

Many thanks for letting me know. He and his skills will be missed.

I will forward your message to Arlene.

Best wishes

**Lynda Gibbons, Parasitologist**

ex-IIP, St. Albans, UK

Oh I am saddened by this news. He added so much to the world of Nematology. I recently had a paper published in his journal and was very pleased with the result. Will his daughter continue the Journal?

with kind regards,  
**George (Poinar), USA**

How sad. We are still in France, returning home on Friday and won't be home until Saturday evening. I presume a funeral will have taken place by then, but please keep me informed. I will always remember his smile and little chuckle.  
Hope you are both well.

**Chris** (Gordon), Editor, Helminthological Abstracts  
ex-IIP, St. Albans, UK

My friend Dr. Siddiqi was a man of many worlds. A learned man of the Muslim world, he was devoted to his family. He understood the worlds of India, Pakistan and Britain. In the wider world he was famous as a plant nematology taxonomist. He had a humorous outlook on the world and was ever ready to laugh at its absurdities.

I am very happy to have known him over many years and for our families to have grown up together. I am proud to have been involved in even a very small part of his work.

I spoke to Beryl Cunningham, who was very sad and said she had always been fond of your father because he was always cheerful!

I have also left messages with John Bridge and Lotfi Khalil.

**Peter Gooch**, Deputy Director  
ex-IIP, St. Albans

I am terribly saddened to hear that your father has passed away, my thoughts are with you and your family at this time. Your father was a wonderful man, I am privileged to have known him. He taught me many, many things and his work was an inspiration to all.

Dr Siddiqi and I were describing a new genus, I have some of the material in the collection here at Fera. I would be honoured to complete this work on Dr Siddiqi's behalf, unfortunately I am unsure how far he had progressed since our last correspondence. When you are ready please send any information on 'Feranema' and I will collate and complete this work. I would be honoured to house Dr Siddiqi's nematode slide collection here at Fera with the Rothamsted Collection if he had not made other plans for its care.

Would it be possible to know where Dr Siddiqi has been put to rest? If possible I would like to visit to pay my respects.

Kind regards

**Rebecca Lawson (Bex)**  
Nematologist and Collections Curator  
Fera Science Ltd., UK

Dear Safia

Sorry to hear about the passing of your father. And apologies for the late response, but I have only just opened my email since before the bank holiday.

He was a huge influence on nematode taxonomy and had a superb eye for minute detail that had escaped most people's attention. A sad loss.

Once again, please accept my condolences (and also those from Rosa, currently in Tenerife) for your loss

Regards

**David Hunt**, Principal Nematologist  
ex-IIP, St Albans, UK

I am really very sad to learn that Dr Siddiqi has passed away. He was just too good in his craft of nematode taxonomy. In my opinion, he has been the best nematode taxonomist across continents and times. It would be extremely difficult to fill in the void created by his death. He was truly an amazing human being, a great role model!

I am still extremely shocked and deeply saddened by Dr Siddiqi's death. He will always be remembered as a legendary Nematologist, a great philosopher and, above all, an excellent human being who touched hearts and lives of many people. His loss will be felt widely across nations particularly by Nematologists in many developing countries for whom his life will continue to be a source of inspiration and encouragement. I feel very blessed and proud to have had the opportunity of personally knowing Dr Siddiqi. He will be truly missed. It is extremely hard to accept that parents are no longer there but I think this is the hard fact of biological life, which we have to accept. May you get enough strength and courage to bear this irreparable loss!

Please keep in touch!

Kind regards

**Shashi Sharma**

Director Plant Biosecurity  
Australia

I just heard that your father passed. I am so sorry and offer my deepest condolences.

**Professor Brent Sipes**,  
Hawaii, USA

I am very saddened to learn from Dr Wasim Ahmed that Dr M Rafiq Siddiqi, the greatest Nematologist of our time expired today in Luton, UK hospital. May God accord peace to the departed soul and courage to the family and friends to bear this loss. This is a great loss to the science of Nematology and nematode taxonomy in particular. He was one of the greatest Nematologists who have ever existed on our planet. He was also an excellent human being, as well as a true friend, philosopher and guide to many including me. We pray to the Almighty God to accord eternal peace to this departed noble soul and strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

**Maya and Hari Gaur**, New Delhi, India

Dear Safia,

I am very, very sad for such bad news. Your father, Mohammed Rafiq Siddiqi, was a great Nematologist and a very religious, great man, whom I greatly appreciated both as a scientist and as a man. I met him in Bari, in 1980, for the first time and since then there was a great consideration between us. His contribution to the development of nematology has been immense.

Please, accept my deep, sincere condolence for your great loss, which is a severe loss for all the Nematologist community as well.

**Maria Vinciguerra,**

Italy

I cannot even imagine the grief and sorrow your family would be experiencing on the demise of your loving and caring father. However, we all are there sharing your grief. He was such a great man that his eternal departure has left a big void which can never be filled. This sad news was not less than a nightmare for all Nematologists all over the world in general and AMU in particular. On his every visit to AMU we used to surround him and our beloved Sir whom we all preferably called Siddiqi Sir used to give us his golden advices in a fatherly fashion. Prof. Wasim Ahmad described him as the greatest Nematologist who had much better knowledge than even NA Cobb. He remembered how Siddiqi Sir differentiated all the groups of nematodes with the help of only light microscopes. He further added that all the present molecular findings are just like the photocopies of Sir's classification which he made several decades back. It was truly an honor for me to have known such a big personality.

We all are praying Allah subhanahu wa ta aala to grant the highest place in Jannatul Firdous to his departed soul and also to bestow you the serenity and peace that you need to get through this difficult time.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

**Mohammad Mahamood**

Glocal University

Saharanpur, India

It is a great loss to our Nematologists community. His guidance and supervision were very important towards the young Nematologists to grow and in future we will miss that part.

May God bless the departed soul with peace in heaven and provide strength to you and your other family members.

Best Regards

**Dr Shavish Vaid**

Senior Research Fellow

Nematode Biodiversity Research lab.

CBS, BGSB University

Rajouri, J&K, India

Hello. Hope you all are doing well. I came to know about Dr. Siddiqi's passing away and felt very sad. The memories I have of him are most treasured.....

His devotion to the subject is known to me since I was a MSc. student when he had initiated the Afro Asian Society of Nematology. In fact, my first publication in the form of an abstract was in its first conference.

He often used to visit Dr. Gaur and Dr. Mrs. Ganguly and I had my interactions with him there. I showed him my slides for identification and he made me understand the differences in free living genera .

His efforts in bringing out the International Journal of Nematology are known to all Nematologists....and his book titled "Tylenchida" is a bible in taxonomy....I recommend it to all my students in the Introductory class due to its illustrations and quality text.

After I lost my father in 2015 Feb, I met him in June 2015 and found a fatherly figure in him. He offered us to stay at Sayeedas place .....I was hesitant....but he insisted telling we will be safe there.....and later when I was at Rothamsted, I still remember the day when he came to pick Sharad and me, and he played old Hindi songs for us so that we could feel at home. Several such small loving gestures are so fresh in my mind.

The last he came to my place was hardly a year back and we had chatted for more than 2 hours. Fortunately my husband was not well that day and he had not gone to the office, so he could join us. It was a pleasure talking to him.

My regret is at not to have met him again when he delivered a lecture for the students in the Division later last year.

My heartfelt condolences to the family members. With fond memories.

**Dr. Anju Kamra**

IARI, Pusa Institute, New Delhi-110012

Writing this mail with a heavy heart. Initially I could not muster enough courage to write the mail. With your mail, I was quite hopeful that Sir would recover slowly due to his immense courage, grit and determination. But it was not in the destiny.

Today a Faculty condolence meeting was held and his services to the departments (Zoology and Botany) and to the Nematology world were remembered. Everybody was sad but at the same time all praise for his monumental work and his humane characteristics. I am down with viral infection since two days with terrible sore throat and fever and feeling worse today due to the sad feelings hovering around.

Being the eldest, your responsibilities are more and you have to be brave so that you can support and console the younger brother and sisters. I pray to God that being such a noble soul he may be rewarded a preferred place in Jannat.

Allah Hafiz

**Qudsia**

Dr. Qudsia Tahseen FASc, FNASc

Professor

Department of Zoology

AMU, Aligarh-202002

It was most sad to learn that Siddiqi Sab has passed away. It is certainly a great loss to the entire nematology fraternity of the world. May his soul rest in the best place in *Jannatul Firdos*.....*aameen*: Allah may also give strength to you all to bear this loss. I regularly pray to Allah for the special blessings to shower upon him. Please share this mail with your brother and all sisters, and convey my Salam to all of them.

**Mujeebur Rahman Khan**

Aligarh Muslim University, India

With tears rolling down on my cheek, I respectfully dedicated this write-up to Dr. Siddiqi. It is very sad and unfortunate to hear such shocking news. It is not only a loss to a single person but nematology is going to face a big drop in future. We cannot imagine the nematology field without Dr. Siddiqi. Still I am recalling my interaction with him in different occasions especially in ONTA meeting. One of the unforgettable moments in my life is to recall my first meeting with him during the First Afro-Asian Society meeting in Aligarh. At that time I just completed my Ph.D. and still I am remembering his encouragement words. Though Dr. Siddiqi is not with us he left his voluminous publications with us which will speak for ever. It is really doubtful how the nematology is going to replace his position. May almighty gives you a great strength and courage to face this unfortunate situation. With kind regards

**P. Sundararaj**

Coimbatore, India

The news concern me and I am really sad for it, you father was great Nematologist and a good father, all the Nematologists are sad for this lost; I send you my wishes for you soon recuperation. Like you said he is now in better place and with God.

**Dr. Ignacio Cid del Prado Vera**

Mexico

It was sad to know about the passing of your Dad and my best friend in the nematology community. He was a great, kind and loving person and a great Nematologist. It will be a great loss to the science of nematology to lose the best taxonomist, his accomplishments will last forever and he will be remembered for his great personality and science. I will miss him and I wish I could come and be with your family in this time of sadness. My great sympathy to you and to all the family.

Kindest Regards,

**Dr. Saad L. Hafez**

Professor of Nematology  
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences  
University of Idaho

Dear Safia

I hope you and family are good. Sure, we missed a great man but that is life. Prophet Mohamed (peace and prayer upon him) also had to die.

We never forget a great Nematologist like your father. Sure life never stop everything concerning the journal will be sorted out to keep going as part of the Society role. Concerning new papers I will arrange with to send them before November.

My best regards to family

**Mousa El-Shwadfy,**  
Egypt

I am really shocked from hearing very sad news about passing away of Prof. Siddiqi.

He was not only a scientist but he was a perfect human and real Muslim.

I know him during 20 years when I was a bachelor plant protection student in University of Tabriz (Iran).

My supervisor professor (Prof. G. Niknam) has a nice photo of Prof. Siddiqi in his lab. We learnt fundamentals of nematology from your father's valuable books and scientific papers.

We are deeply sorry for passing away of Prof. Siddiqi.

I am sure that he is in peace now.

I request from Allah-o-Jalla-Jalalah all the best things for him.

Nematology never forgets your father, Safia.

With Best Regards

**Ali Chenari Bouket, Ph.D.**  
Iran

Sounds like his love for his science never diminished. He left quite a legacy both in terms of nematology and family.

I miss our days in IIP – I think those were my happiest days in CABI.

I look forward to reading the obit. Hugs.

**Patricia Neenan,**  
ex-IIP, St. Albans

I remember well the meeting with you and your beloved Papa and mom in Reading, and the gathering with you and your dad in Salt Lake city. I can image the smile of your dad in the bosom of God.

May your dad enter eternal rest. He is such a wonderful person.

We are so proud of your Dad. Good idea to keep IJN going on.

Blessing

Steve

Xuebiao Gao, USA –

I am sorry for your loss, it is indeed a great loss to scientific community as well. Please accept my deepest condolence. I wish to communicate with Prof. Siddiqi about his recently published papers. But this news shocked me, May his rest in peace.

Kind Regards,

**Dr. Maria Munawar**

Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

Dear Safia beti,

Thank you for your letter. I am saddened which you children can very well understand as besides you all I was closest to him and I had spent my most of time, in India including Aligarh, Delhi, etc. He used to love me most as well as also respect my work. May he rest in Jannat. Besides, his children and friends he loved nematodes the most. Where we would find a man like him? Last that I met him was in my 2 flats at Jamia Millia Islamia and the last sentence that he said to me that your flats are big and very good. I can spend the night on the return. I waited and waited for his return but he never returned. In India and The rest of the world, we were together everywhere and regarded as the top in particular area of Nematologists of the world. His nematology book on Tylenchida and mine two books on Dorylaimida as also on Mononchida are of world fame and may be available in all libraries of the world. He used to call me as friendly" rivals". May god bless him in the other world where sooner or later we all would go.

Yours uncle,

**M. Shamim Jairajpuri**

It is a great loss for the Nematology society and we will never forget his outstanding works.

My deepest sympathy to Safia.

Best regards,

**Mohammad Reza**

Gent University, Belgium

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

I was terribly sorry to hear about the passing of your father, the great Muslim Nematologist. While we know that, all people are given to us by Allah for but a limited time, it is still difficult to accept the death of a loved one.

We will sadly miss him. My deepest sympathy to you and my prayer is with you and your family at this painful time

Kind regards

**Akbar Karegar,**

Department of Plant Protection,

Shiraz University, Iran

I am shocked to know from Dr. HS Gaur via Facebook the sad demise of Dr MR Siddiqi, a legendary Nematologist of the world. We are deeply mourned on this and May Allah give you courage to bear his loss.

May Allah rest his departed soul in peace.

Kind regards,

Sincerely,

**Professor Matiyar Rahaman Khan**

Principal Scientist (Nematology), IARI, New Delhi

Dear Dr. Safia

I was deeply saddened by the news of Dr Siddiqi passing, was such a great person.

He will live on in our memories forever.

My heart felt condolence to you and your family and the Nematologists society.

**Shalaleh Moslehi,**

Azarbaijan Shahid Madani University,

Tabriz, Iran.

I am very sorry and would like to offer my sadness and sincere condolences to you and your family. It is really a big sorrow and a deep loss. You lost your great father, we lost a great man, Dr. Siddiqi doubtless was a genius in Nematology science, he is alive with thousands of his impressive works which many of them matured the Nematology world, and really he was more ahead from his time. May his soul rest in peace, Ameen, please know that my thoughts are with you. Take care and best regards,

**Zahra Tanha Maafi**

Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection

Tehran, Iran

I am Aside Gharakhani a student PhD from Tarbiat Modares University, Iran.

Unfortunately I heard prof. Siddiqi passed on Friday.

I always use his books and papers and I become sad for losing him very much. I hope he has a good position in heaven.

Best wishes

**Azadeh Gharakhani**

Please accept my deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences. When I saw your mail, before I could read it itself I felt there was bad news.

He was a wonderful person and a good friend. I wish I could have written to him often. I am anyway glad to know that he had kept himself busy until the last day, and had a peaceful death. He was fortunate to have had a lovely family and that all of you were around when he passed away. He is now with your mum and the only consolation we have is that he is in a better place and you would meet him one day. I feel for you dear Safia as I know you love him so. Glad you was not in Canada but near him the last few years. My prayers and sympathies are with you and your family. May your dear father's soul rest in peace,  
With love

**Nalini Gnanapragasm**  
Sri Lanka

"Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Elahe Rajaoon - Surely we belong to Allah and to Him shall we return"

I am truly saddened to hear this devastating sad news of the passing away of your father Dr. Siddiqi. He was such a wonderful person who contributed so much to science and especially to Nematology. I always enjoyed meeting and working with him and sought professional expertise from him. He always talked very high about you. May Allah put his soul in eternal peace and rest and give him the highest place in Jannah- Ameen.

Our condolences to you and the entire Siddiqi family. We will remember him in our prayers and do dua for him. May God give all the family the courage to bear his loss at this difficult time and give the departed soul the highest place in Jannah-Ameen.

He will be missed for a long-time to come.

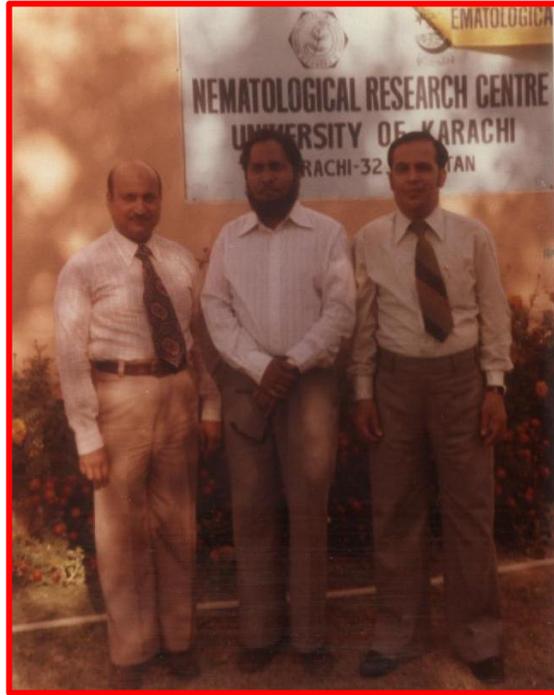
Please inform me if there are any services for Dr. Siddiqi to be held sooner and I will accordingly let you know if my plans will allow me to attend such services for him.

Take care!

With best regards,

**Zafar A. Handoo,**  
Mycology & Nematology Genetic Diversity & Biology Laboratory  
USDA, ARS, Northeast Area  
Bldg. 010A, Rm. 111, BARC-West  
10300 Baltimore Avenue  
Beltsville, MD 20705, USA

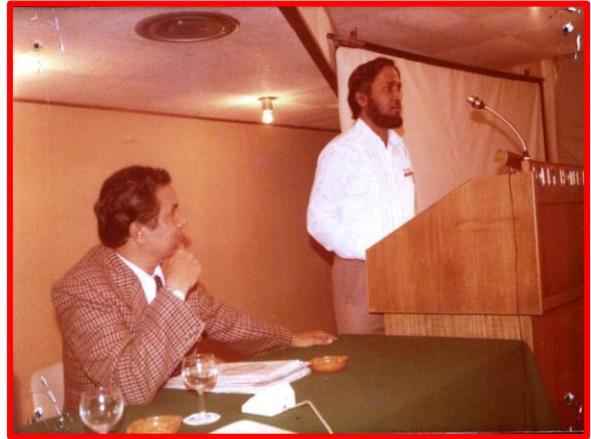
## Unforgettable Memories of Dr. Mohammad Rafiq Siddiqi



**Dr. M. R. Siddiqi with Dr. M.A. Maqbool and Dr. H.A. Khan**



**Dr. Siddiqi with workshop participants and NNRC team**



**Dr. Siddiqi addressing in different conferences and workshops in Pakistan**



**Dr. Siddiqi with his friends in National Nematological Research Centre, UoK**

