

**MS. NIGHAT FATIMA
(1957-1996)**

Ms. Nighat Fatima D/o Mr. Syed Mohammad Jaleel suddenly died on 21st February, 1996; it was Eid day. May God almighty shower his choicest blessings upon the departed soul. Ameen.

Ms. Nighat Fatima was born in 1957 at Hyderabad, Sindh, Pakistan. She obtained the B.Sc. degree (1976) from the University of Sindh, Jamshoro and then the M.Sc. degree (1978) from the Department of Zoology, University of Karachi with special interest in the field of Parasitology. She joined the National Nematological Research Centre and worked as a Research Officer in PL480 research project where she was involved in studies on the taxonomy of plant parasitic nematodes (1980-1987). Ms. Nighat Fatima later joined the Department of Zoology and worked on the "Revision of some genera of the family Dolichodoridae (Chitwood in Chitwood & Chitwood, 1950) Skarbilovich, 1959: Subfamily Merliniinae Siddiqui, 1971" under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Meherunnisa Farooq for which she was awarded the degree of M. Phil. (1994) by the Faculty of Science, University of Karachi. She also worked for some time as a Research Scientist at the PCSIR Laboratories, Karachi.

Ms. Nighat was a capable researcher and a good taxonomist. She has published at least 11 research papers describing many new nematode species like *Merlinius niazi*, *M. pistciei*, *M.pyri*, *Pararotylenchus microstylus*, *Scutylenchus baluchiensis*, *Tylenchus pakistanensis*.

Ms. Nighat Fatima remained without a job for quite a long time for which she was very much frustrated. She could have certainly contributed a great deal, had she become associated with any research institution. Sad demise of Ms. Nighat Fatima, a budding scientist, has thus been a great loss to the science of Nematology in Pakistan.

Dr. M. Maqbool