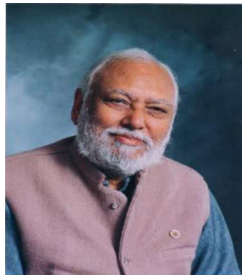


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**Memory Crosswalk****Professor Rajeshwar Prasad****Profile of a Legend****(December 01,1933 – October 29, 2012)****Team Social Science Gazetteer**

In global intellectual history we find the presence of those personalities who never die because of their dominant thoughts and committed activism. Such personalities have gone beyond “empirical realities”. In my humble opinion the name of Professor Rajeshwar Prasad figures in such list of personalities. None to the best of my knowledge and belief has served the cause of

social sciences in India better than Professor Rajeshwar Prasad. The academic and actional legacy of Prof Rajeshwar Prasad is present in his family even today. The members of family of Professor Rajeshwar Prasad through various roles of Indian Social Science Association (ISSA) are providing impressive continuance of legacy of Professor Rajeshwar Prasad. The ideas and activism of Professor Rajeshwar Prasad are still present to an extent in his students and friends.

Born on 1 December 1933 at Saharanpur (UP) Professor Rajeshwar Prasad underwent the process of plurality centric socialization in a middle-class family. His academic personality was structured through the studies taking place at Roorkee, Bareilly and Lucknow (UP). His trans-disciplinary understanding about social realities got maturity when he was taught by Professor Radhakamal Mukerjee, Professor D. P. Mukerji, Prof. A.K Saran, Prof Baljit Singh, Prof Zafar Hasan etc

Activity was the “mool mantra” of this Karma Yogi’s life. Through participation, he made optimum use of the opportunities provided by the great University of Lucknow in various forms and modes. As a keen sportsman, he played hockey at school, college and university levels, and captained rowing and swimming teams of Lucknow University. Even after his student days, Professor Prasad continued his interest by associating himself with sporting activities. He had been Secretary of the Hockey Association and of the District Athletic Association, Agra. As Chairman, Sports Council of Agra University, he was Instrumental In organizing Inter-collegiate and inter-university tournaments and also included indigenous events like kabbadi, kho-kho, wrestling, etc. He also initiated Dhyana Chand Memorial Hockey Tournament at Agra.

Students’ unions in the early post-independence era, when Professor Prasad was at the Lucknow University (up to 1955), were the most important institutions for training of youth in the craft of democracy. Political parties kept away from union politics. Usually, the good debaters of the class would contest for representation and the union would fight for the cause of students. Professor Prasad was on the active student front. He got bullet injuries in police firing in Bareilly. He was Vice President and later President of Lucknow University Student Union. He was active in the famous agitation at Lucknow University (1953-54). He won many all-India debates. He represented his university in inter-university youth festivals at Delhi and participated in Chancellors’ Inter-University Camps at Ranikhet, Nainital.

Infact the “Lucknow School of Social Sciences” became grooming ground for Professor Rajeshwar Prasad. Sporting activities of various nature was one of the hobbies of Professor Rajeshwar Prasad. The politico-academic leadership and student leadership were other areas which made Professor Prasad visionary in multiple fields. In the year 1957 he joined Institute of Social Sciences, Agra to enlighten students of Sociology and Social Work in the capacity of Assistant Professor (Lecturer). As one of the experts of Research Methodology, Professor Rajeshwar Prasad became popular amongst faculty members and students. He was omnipresent – be it in an academic meet, sports

ground, a match, regular badminton of the faculty, any kind of extra-curricular activity on the stage, off the stage. The most surprising thing was that he was equally comfortable everywhere as if it was his own area of specialization and expertise. He did not teach ‘social work’, he lived his subject. He was a highly accomplished personality.

He acquired the positions of Reader and Professor in the Institute and became Director of the Institute, later on. He acted as the Visiting Faculty at several universities of India and abroad. He also served G.B. Pant Social Science Institute (An institute formed by ICSSR) as Senior Fellow. He visited University of Melbourne, Australia, Cleveland University, Cleveland USA and delivered lectures. He also participated in various academic programmes.

His multifaceted activism encouraged him to institute **Indian Social Science Association (ISSA)**, which is an important Organisation of disciplines of Social Sciences.

### **The Professional Career**

Professor Prasad left Lucknow University to join U.P. State Services in the Department of Social Welfare; and worked for very short periods at Moradabad and Agra. In 1957, he joined the Institute of Social Sciences, Agra University (now Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar University), Agra to teach Sociology, Social Work and Criminology. In the Institute of Social Sciences he worked as Lecturer / Reader in Research Methodology, Professor of Social Work and later as Director of the Institute till his retirement in 1994. His passion for teaching and reputation as a teacher were instrumental in procuring and providing offers of teaching from various institutions at different times, which he happily fulfilled to his satisfaction and to the inviting institutions. For example, he taught Sociology, Social Research, Social Work at: (i) Murari Lal Khatri Girls College, Agra in purely honorary capacity; (ii) as Head at Kasturba Rural Institute, Rajpura (Punjab); (iii) as visiting fellow at DDI (Deemed University), Dayal Bagh, Agra; (iv) as visiting fellow at the Department of Sociology, Punjab University, Chandigarh; (v) as Visiting Professor, Department of Sociology and also Social Work, Kashi Vidyapeeth (now M.G. Kashi Vidyapeeth University), Varanasi; (vi) as Visiting Professor at Department of Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; (vii) as Visiting

Professor, Department of Social Work, Lucknow University, Lucknow; (viii) as Visiting Professor, Department of Social Work, Punjabi University, Patiala (Punjab); (ix) as Visiting Professor, M.J.P. Rohilkhand University, Barielly and established Social Work Department there; (x) as Visiting Professor, Sahuji Maharaj University of Kanpur, Kanpur and established the Department of Social Work there; and (xi) as Senior Fellow at G.B. Pant Social Science Institute of ICSSR at Allahabad.

Besides, he also delivered lectures in different institutions in India and abroad. These included: Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy of Administration, Mussoorie; Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi; H.P. Institute of Public Administration, Shimla; Haryana Institute of Public Administration Chandigarh/Gurgoan; National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad; University of Melbourne, Australia; Cleveland University, Cleveland, USA; and International Management Institute, New Delhi.

Association with different professional organizations becomes natural with active persons and much more so with the people of the calibre of Professor Prasad. Professor Prasad associated in different capacities with a number of professional associations: (i) Indian Sociological Society Member, Managing Committee; Member, Editorial Board, Sociological Bulletin; (ii) Indian Society of Criminology Vice-President; (iii) Indian Association of Trained Social Workers – President; (iv) Indian Society of Psychiatric Social Work (now Indian Society of Professional Social Workers) – President; (v) Indian Social Science Association Founder Member, President; (vi) Uttar Pradesh Samaj Shastra Parishad – President; (vii) Indian Association of Social Science Institutions Treasurer/Vice- President; (ix) Indian Council of Social Welfare, Mumbai – Member and Vice-President of its U.P. Chapter.

As a professional, he attended a large number of conferences/seminars/workshops in the areas of Sociology, Social Work, Criminology, Social Development, etc., in India and abroad, and travelled extensively, both nationally and globally visiting the USA, Canada, the UK, Netherlands, Denmark, France, Italy, Hong

Kong, Thailand, Singapore, North and South Korea, Japan, Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Kenya (Nairobi), Nepal, Sri Lanka, USSR, etc.

### **Fellowships, Scholarships, Travel Grants and Awards**

Professor Prasad never gave up any opportunities. As a bright faculty, he was awarded many fellowships, scholarships, travel grants and awards, and utilized all of them in furtherance of knowledge.

#### **Scholarships and Fellowships**

- USEFI's Fulbright Scholarship for Cleveland and International Programme for Social Workers Western Reserve University Cleveland, Ohio, USA 1961.
- Lever Hulme Visiting Fellowship for teaching at University of Melbourne, Australia – 1978.
- Ford Foundation – ICSSR Fellowship for Institute of Social Science, Dan-Hague, Netherlands.

#### **Travel Grants**

- Commonwealth travel grants and support to visit agencies in Canada and to participate in Social Development Conference.
- Asian Pacific Fellowship and grants to participate in an international seminar on Juvenile Delinquency at Seoul, Korea.
- Centre for South Asian Studies, Northern Territory University N.T., and Australia travel grants to deliver keynote address in an international seminar on the family: Asia Pacific Perspectives, in the UN year of the family – 1994.
- Korean Academy of Social Science to participate in social science scholar's interaction at Pong Yang, North Korea.
- International Council of Social Welfare, travel grants to chair a session at the International Conference on Social Welfare and Development for all Hong Kong.
- Member, Indian Delegation to participate in an international Conference on Community Education and to present a paper on Concept of Community and Strategies for its Education at Nairobi, Kenya.
- Travel grants and support to participate in the International Conference on Group Psychotherapy and Chair a Group. Meeting

on Family as the Basic Unit of Individual Development at Copenhagen, Denmark.

### **Awards**

- Best Research Paper Cash Award by Agra University, Agra.
- Professor Radhakamal Mukerjee Award for Young Social Scientist for Best Research Paper of the Indian Social Science Association.
- Dr B.S. Haikwal-Sushil Chandra Award of the Indian Society of Criminology for an eminent social scientist enriching the discipline of Criminology.
- Award by the Indian Research Association Samaj Anusandhan Shiromani contributions made for advancing social science research of the country.
- Honorary Fellowship of Indian Society of Professional Social Work Services for professional social work.
- Honorary membership of Rotary International (Two Clubs For Agra) as distinguished citizen, serving the local community.
- Uttar Pradesh Ratn of the All Intellectual Society.
- Inter-University Consortium for International Development USA, awarded for Leadership in International Development at Mumbai.

### **Research Activities**

Both in Sociology and Social Work Professor Prasad was an approved guide of Agra University, M.J.P. Rohilkhand University and of Rajasthan Vidhyapeeth (Deemed University), Udaipur. He completed a number of Research/Evaluation/Training Projects of University Grants Commission, ICSSR, Central and State Governments including a study assigned by UNESCO on an Indian organization working in the area of youth welfare. He had also been associated with the editing/editorial board/editorial advisory board of Sociological Bulletin, IASSI Quarterly, Indian Journal of Social Science Research, Samajiki, Samaj Vagyaniki, Indian Social Scientist, Social Science Review, Contemporary Journal of Social Work and Social Science Gazetteer.

## Publications

Professor Prasad's papers, professional notes, review articles and book reviews have appeared in *Eastern Anthropologist*, *Sociological Bulletin*, *Agra University Journal of Research (Letters)*, *Bhartiya Sahitya*, *IASSI Quarterly*, *Social Science Review*, *Contemporary Journal of Social Work*, *Social Science Gazetteer*, *Encyclopedia of Social Work in India*, *Samajiki*, *Samaj Vaigyaniki*, *Indian Journal of Social Research*, etc. His important books include *Decisions of Indian Youth*; *Child Welfare Problems in India*; *Some Aspects of Education and Social Education*; *Conspectus of Indian Society*; *Sorokin and Sociology*; *Social Reforms: Change in Indian Society*; *Social Administration*; *Social Development: Role of Science and Technology*; etc. The book *Social Panorama*, which is a collection of papers by Indian and foreign scholars, his friends, colleagues and old students and edited by Dr V.K. Pachauri, was published in his honour.

## Administrative Positions

As is obvious, Professor Prasad was not only a book worm, a usual teacher, but also a multi-dimensional personality. He worked in possibly all aspects of academic life. He was associated with UGC, ICSSR, also Department of Science and Technology – Science and Society Division, Indian Council of Medical Research, HRDR and other committees and UPSC in many different capacities. He has also been on the governing bodies of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change, Guwahati and Centre for Research in Social Sciences, Kolkata for a number of years.

He held several administrative posts such as Chief Proctor University Hostels; Proctor, Residential wing of the University, Honorary Librarian of the Central Library (responsible for modernization of library), and Chairperson, Sports Council. He held membership of Faculty of Arts, Academic Council, Executive Council (also as nominated member by the Chancellor) of Agra University and many other universities in India. He was also Dean, Faculty of Arts and Professor in charge concurrently of many other courses, viz., Library Science, History and Culture of the University. He successfully ran the National Service Scheme (NSS) as Coordinator, National Cadet Corps

(NCC) as Company Commander and Adult and Continuing Education as Honorary Director.

Usually persons who are active in their student days continue their hobbies and activities in later professional life. This holds true of Professor Prasad. His love for organizing cultural/creative activities found expression in organizing inter-collegiate competitions, participating as team leader in youth festivals, helping in organizing youth camps, *Musharias/Kavi Sammelans*, etc., and helping students to bring out their own magazine. He not only edited the monthly *Yuvak*, but also published stories, poems, travelogues, etc., in *Yuvak*, *Sarita*, *Mukta*, *Anuvrat*, *Dharmyug*, etc. Poets and writers like Dr Ram Bilas Sharma, Neeraj, Balbir Singh Rang, Som Thakur, Ghanshyam Asthana, Pt. Rajnath Sharma, Dr Bishambhar Nath Upadhyaya, Shishuji and many others were easily accessible to young writers at his residence. He also edited a collection of poems, *Niharika* and a collection of one-act plays, *Taj Ki Chhaya Mein – Ekanki Sangrah*. A Photography Club in the Institute and a Photographers Association in Agra city were also established that organized photography salon every year. As member of Executive Committee of U.P. Artists' Association, he organized a number of painting exhibitions in Agra Club, Agra College, Agra University, etc. He was actively associated with Progressive Writers' Association, Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA), HUM Lalit Kala Manch and other cultural organizations in the city. He initiated Dhyana Chand Memorial Hockey Tournament; Annual Drama Festival in memory of deceased artists; Painting Exhibition, under the aegis of Agra Arts Association, Agra District Athletic Association, etc.

## Teacher-Activist

The spirit of the union activism as a noted student leader remained ignited as teacher too. Professor Prasad is a Founder Secretary and later President of Agra University Residential Teachers Association, Member, Executive Committee, Agra University Teachers Association (AUTA) and Standing Member of Federation of U.P. Universities and Colleges Teachers Associations (FUPUCTA). He also got actively associated with All India Federation of Universities and Colleges Teachers Organization (AIFUCTO) since its inception.

### Rarest of the Rare Contribution

Most of the people achieve great and rare things in life as per their social perception. But these achievements are strictly personal and individualistic. Achievements that directly or indirectly influence others are greater than those that affect only the achiever. Professor Rajeshwar Prasad has made 'rarest of the rare contribution' in the field of social science way back in 1967. Thanks to the foresight of a young lad of 34 years who thought of the interdisciplinary interaction of the social scientists of India. The First Conference of ISSA was held in 1971 at Ranchi University, Bihar (now Jharkhand). Since then, regular conferences have been held, ISSA has completed 57 years of proactive service.

Professor Rajeshwar Prasad, the loved and admired 'Bhai Saheb' as a young clean shaven, smart, popular teacher and a revered 'Baba' after sporting a beard (all silver) by his love for academics and the constant activities of ISSA and other organizations in Agra turned the city of Taj, the city of love and beauty into **Mecca of interdisciplinary social interaction**. Baba, Grand Hotel, Agra and ISSA have merged into one entity and inseparable.

After retirement in the Year 1994, Professor Rajeshwar Prasad became more productive academically and culturally. He passed away on October 29, 2012 after a brief illness but his presence has always been felt by the world of Social Sciences globally.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE GAZETTEER

### GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Original unpublished research-based papers, articles in the area of Humanities, Science, Management, Law, etc with inter disciplinary approach **adhering** to the latest **plagiarism** rules can be submitted in **.doc or .docx** format. Book Review can be submitted too.

A general guideline for contributor(s) is given below: -

#### **Necessary / Compulsory Elements of Paper/Manuscript**

**TITLE PAGE** – Title of the Paper; Name(s) of Author(s) their designation(s) and contact details to appear on the Title page only.

**Corresponding Author to be marked with “#”.**

**ABSTRACT** – All the Manuscripts should include an abstract of about 250 words and key words (Maximum-6).

**MANUSCRIPT**- The manuscript in English containing 3000 to 5000 words (6 to 10 A-4 size pages) leaving 2.54 cm / 1 inch margin on all sides of the page should be submitted. Justify margins. ***Due emphasis should be on Methodological Frame and Conclusion(s). They should be well emphasised and elaborate.***

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**FOOTNOTES** – All footnotes should be indicated by serial number marked as superscript in the text and cited under Notes at the end of the manuscript bearing corresponding numbers.

**TABLES AND FIGURES**–Tables / Figures should be numbered in serial order of appearance (Table1, Table2, Figure1 etc.). Type each table on a separate sheet giving the corresponding table number and the caption. Each table must include headings for all columns and rows. Figures must be drawn using black ink on separate sheets and marked with the corresponding figure number and caption at the bottom.

**REFERENCES**–**APA Style to be followed strictly.**

- ✓ **In – Text References** – located in the text for **Rephrased or Quoted Information**.References should be embedded in the text indicated by serial number in a square bracket. Page numbers in the text are necessary only if the cited portion is a direct quote.
- ✓ **List of References** – **At the End of the paper arranged alphabetically.**

**BOOK REVIEW:** Book reviews must provide the following details, and in this order: Name of author/title of book, reviewed/place of publication/publisher/year of publications. Number of pages and price with binding specifications (PB or HB).

**Two copies of books for review may be sent to Book Review Editor  
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