

PROFILE OF SCIENTIST/RESEARCH WORKER

Name: PANKAJ KUMAR PAL

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Qualification: Ph.D. in Botany [Lucknow University].

Area(s) of Specialization: Evolutionary Botany, Palynology & Reproductive Biology.

Occupation/Designation: Professor in Botany & Coordinator of the Centre of Advanced Study in Botany [UGC].

Major Activities: Teaching [Post-Graduate] & Research in Botany.

Awards/Recognitions: 1. **University Scholarship** during B. Sc. Course of study (1972-1974).
2. **National Scholarship** (Govt. of India) during M. Sc. Course of study (1975-1977).
3. **Certificate of Merit, Kalyani University** (1979).
4. **Chunilal Katiyal Gold Medal**, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow (1983).
5. Elected as **Fellow** of the **Linnean Society, London** (1984).
6. **Career Award, U. G. C.** (1990). 7. **Fellow** of the **Palaeontological Society of India** (2008). 8. **Fellow** of the **Palaeobotanical Society** (2009).

RESUME OF BIO DATA OF PROF. P. K. PAL

Prof. Pankaj Kumar Pal is a **First Class First in B. Sc.** (Hons. in Botany) and a **First Class Second in M. Sc.** (in Botany) of Kalyani University and a **Ph.D** (in Botany) of Lucknow University.

For his academic excellence he was awarded with the **Certificate of Merit** of Kalyani University and the **National Scholarship** of Government of India.

Since 1977, he has been actively engaged in research on Palaeobotany, Palynology and Reproductive Biology. He worked as a **Scientific Officer** in the **Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany** (DST, Govt. of India) and as a **Visiting Scientist** in the **Bedford College (University of London)** and the **Institutt for Geologi (Oslo University)**. Since 1985 he has been working as a faculty member in the **Department of Botany** of the **University of Burdwan**. Presently he is working there as a **Professor** (UGC).

He worked with eminent scientists, viz. **Prof. T. M. Harris F. R. S.** and **Prof. W. G. Chaloner F. R. S.** and **Dr. M. N. Bose, F. N. A.**

As recognition of his research work, he has been awarded with the **Katiyal Gold Medal** of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, **UGC Career Award** and elected as **Fellow** of the **Linnean Society (London)**, the **Palaeontological Society of India** and the **Palaeobotanical Society**.

As a **Principal Investigator** he has conducted **research projects sponsored by the UGC**. Presently he is the Programme Coordinator of the Centre of Advanced Study in Botany [UGC]. He has supervised the **Ph. D.** works of **nine** candidates and **M. Phill** works of **two** candidates. Presently **eight Research Scholars** (six on full-time basis and two on part-time basis) are **working** under his supervision for **Ph. D** degree.

He has **published 2 books, 2 monographs** (one published in the **Philosophical Transaction of the Royal Society, London**, another in the **Palaeobotanist**) and **106 research papers and notes** in the country and abroad. Quite a few of his publications have been cited in eminent text books, viz. **C. B Beck (1988)**, Origin and evolution of Gymnosperms, Colombia University Press New York; **T. N. Taylor, E. L. Taylor and M. Krings (1993)**, The biology and evolution of fossil plants. Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey; **T. N. Taylor, E. L. Taylor and M. Krings (2009)**, Paleobotany, the biology and evolution of fossil plants. Elsevier Inc. San Diego; **Friis, E. M., Crane, P. and Pedersen, K. R. (2011)**, Early Flowers and angiosperm evolution. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge.

Prof. Pal is a reputed teacher. Since 1985 he is actively engaged in teaching **Palaeobotany** and **Palynology** of **postgraduate** students in the **Department of Botany** of the **University of Burdwan**. **Burdwan University** is one of those few universities in the country where **Palaeobotany** and **Palynology** is offered as a **Special Paper** to the **M. Sc.** Students in addition to a general paper. Prof. Pal has also **introduced the teaching of Plant Reproductive Biology in the Under Graduate and Post Graduate curricula** of Burdwan University and designed the courses.

Prof. Pal possesses experience in academic administration as **Head of the University Department of Studies**, **Superintendent of Research Scholars' Hostel**, **Chairman and Member of academic and administrative bodies** of different universities, **Principal Investigator of sponsored research projects**, **Scientific Officer** of a research institute and as **Organizing Secretary/Coordinator of national and international conferences/UGC sponsored refresher courses**.