

Biography of Professor Nezamaddin Daneshvar

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The late professor Nezamaddin Daneshvar, a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Food, Agriculture & Environment (JFAE)-Helsinki-Finland, passed away on September 12, 2007, after a long and difficult battle with asthma. Professor Daneshvar was the Regional Editor of the Journal of Food, Agriculture & Environment (JFAE) in Iran.

Professor Daneshvar was born in the town of Marand, Azerbaijan, Iran, on September, 2, 1947. After finishing elementary and high schools he left for Turkey where he obtained his M.Sc. degree in the field of chemical engineering at the Istanbul technical university in 1971. Upon his graduation, he became a teaching assistant in department of chemistry at the University of Tabriz in Iran. Five years later, he moved to the United Kingdom to complete his university and graduate educations. He received the second M.Sc. (Inorganic Chemistry) and his Ph.D. (Chemistry) at the Newcastle University in 1976 and 1981, respectively.

Professor Daneshvar had remained with university of Tabriz to the end of his life. He was one of the founders and originators of applied chemistry field at undergraduate and graduate levels in Iran. He was also one of the founders of chemical engineering field at university of Tabriz. From 1971 till 2007 he was a professor of applied chemistry at the University of Tabriz.

Professor Daneshvar had played a vital role in initiating the study of Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOPs) in Iran. In particular, he studied different AOPs in treatment of water and wastewater with his students. During his career, Prof. Daneshvar published over 155 research papers and three books in the areas of water and wastewater treatment, environmental protection, inorganic chemistry and nanotechnology.

Apart from being a renowned researcher, Professor Daneshvar was also a highly respected educator. Numerous students under his supervision have graduated and some of them have become well-known professors at universities all over the world. In particular, he was the teacher of the most of

the applied chemistry professors in Iran and he supervised graduate theses of 35 students at the University of Tabriz.

His previous positions include head of the teacher training center of Tabriz, from 1975 to 1976, and head of the department of applied chemistry at the University of Tabriz from 1990 to 1998.

I, Dr. Khataee, as his former student, remember him: “It was his enthusiasm for science and research that made me decide to work with him on my thesis. During this period we became very close friends, for many times we met late at night and even in weekends to discuss our research. He was not only an open-minded supervisor, but also an example for life.”

Professor Daneshvar recently had grant and contract from the Department of the Environment of Iran for performing the national project of site selection for disposal of hazardous wastes in East, West Azerbaijan and Ardabil states.

Those who knew him will always remember him as a tireless researcher, a diligent professor, and a serious professional and a patriot. However, by us who had the opportunity of being his student and sharing part of our lives with him, he represented much more than that: he was a respected teacher, generous friend, a noble person, someone who practiced honesty and integrity before anything else. These features of his are remembered by all of those who know him — and these are, in our point of view, the characteristics that truly individualize him.