

## In Memoriam

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### M.D. KARKHANAVALA

We were all deeply grieved to learn of the tragic death of Dr. Minocher Dadabhoy Karkhanavala, Director of the Chemical Group of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in Bombay, President of the Indian Thermal Analysis Society and Member of the ICTA Council.

Dr. M.D. Karkhanavala (known to his friends as Minoo) was born in 1926 in Bombay. He was a student of the Parsi Charitable Institution and Elphinston and Wilson Colleges, affiliated to Bombay University. He graduated in the field of Chemistry in 1947 and completed his postgraduate studies at New York State College (1950, M.Sc. in glass technology) and Pennsylvania State University (1952, Ph.D. in ceramics). In 1953, he returned to India and joined the Atomic Energy Commission in Bombay. He became the Director of Chemical Group of BARC in 1979.



He was the author of more than 100 scientific papers dealing with thermal analysis, X-ray diffraction and electrical conductivity measurements and he significantly contributed to the field of non-isothermal kinetics. He was a member or honorary member of different institutions, societies and scientific boards and he assisted in developing nuclear chemistry in India. He devoted his life not only to the benefit of science, but also to the service of mankind as a priest.

Let us close this necrology by repeating his words from the interview which we made for Czechoslovak Journal of Physics [27 (1977) 60] during his 1976 visit in Prague:

Question: Could you tell us about your philosophy of life?

Karkhanavala: My philosophy is an old one but has a general validity even today. Most important is the purity of thoughts and actions. By purity I mean integrity, honor and truth.

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