Glowing tributes paid to Dr. Salam

Glowing tributes were paid to Professor Dr. Abdus Salam, the only Nobel Laureate of Pakistan, by several distinguished scientists, educationists, colleagues and students of the late Professor at a reference organised in memory of Dr. Abdus Salam. Contributions of the world class scientist from Pakistan were highlighted at the meeting arranged by Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, Pakistan Nuclear Society, Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Pakistan Physical Society and the Quaid-i-Azam University.

The gathering paid respect to the truly multidimensional personality of Dr. Salam as an invigorating teacher, a world class scientist, a thoughtful organiser and above all, a concerned citizen of the Third World in general and of Pakistan in particular. The achievements in these fields will be a living monument to this most illustrious son of Pakistan who had been a source of inspiration for the scientists all over the world.

Syeda Abida Hussain, former Federal Minister for Education, Science & Technology, who presided over the meeting reminisced about her childhood recollections of the great scientist from Jhang, her own home town. She said that Salam's love for his native place was manifest in his desire to be at his Alma Mater in Jhang, when the Government of Pakistan honoured him with highest civil award in 1979. She said, "We must honour our luminaries since they are the pride of the nation and the best way to pay tribute to Dr. Salam is to inculcate a deep sense of tolerance."

Mr. Munir Ahmed Khan, former Chairman PAEC, spoke about Prof. Salam's role in the development of science and technology in Pakistan and his association with several scientific institutions in various capacities.

Prof. Dr. Kamaluddin from QAU enumerated the extensive and intensive contribution of Dr. Salam towards Particle Physics and his enormous scientific search leading to about 285 publications in scientific journals the world over.

Prof. Dr. Fayyazuddin, an expert in Particle Physics, enlightened the audience about Prof. Salam's contribution to our understanding of the nature and his stress on scientific education for development of nations.

Dr. N.M. Butt, Scientist Emeritus, PAEC, gave his impressions about International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) Trieste, which Dr. Salam founded in 1964 and remained associated with throughout his life, where the scientists from the developing countries come to interact with their fellow scientists for an exposure to the latest advancements in their fields.

The late Professor's contributions towards development of science in the Third World countries through formations of such institutions and organisations like Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), COMSATS and International Nathiagali Summer College on Physics and Contemporary Needs were also highlighted by speakers. The speakers also highlighted the late Nobel Laureate's views about science and science culture and faith and scientific thoughts.

Prof. G. Murtaza of QAU spoke about his impressions about Dr. Salam as a teacher and as a humanist.