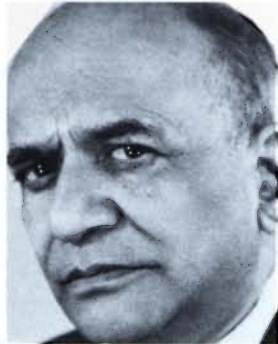


OBITUARIES

Vasant Ramji Khanolkar, B.Sc., M.D., Hon. F.R.C.P., Hon. L.L.D.,
Hon. D.M.S., Hon. F.R.C.M., Hon. D.Sc., F.A.S.C., F.A.M.S., F.N.I.
1895-1978



Dr. V. R. Khanolkar, renowned scientist and an internationally acknowledged authority on cancer died in Bombay on 29 October 1978. He was an eminent pathologist and a well-known figure in cancer research and was the director

of the Indian Cancer Research Center from its inception in 1952 up to 1973. He received the Padma Bhushan award in 1955 for his services in promoting medical research and education in India. He was the vice-chancellor of the University of Bombay from 1960-1963 when the Government appointed him as a national research professor in medicine, a professorship which he held for ten years.

Born on April 13, 1895, Dr. Khanolkar studied medicine at London University and passed his M.D. (pathology) in 1923. Later he was associated with the Grant Medical and Seth G.S. medical colleges as a professor of pathology. He was the founder and first president of the Indian Association of Pathologists.

Dr. Khanolkar was also associated with the Tata Memorial Hospital and was appointed director of laboratories and research at the hospital. He held various appointments during his career and was a governing body member of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Dr. Khanolkar, who was featured in the *IJL Centennial Festschrift, I* as a "Senior Distinguished Contributor" (41:181, 1973), had broad interests in leprosy and was the author of the book, *Perspective in Pathology of Leprosy*. He, along with Rajlakshmi K. Iyengar, developed a method to detect *Mycobacterium leprae* in early nonlepromatous cases as well as healthy contacts. His co-authored article on *in vitro* studies on human leprosy describes their success in culturing mycobacteria isolated from leprosy lesions. The culture was done in spinanal ganglionic cells of human fetus media. The bacillus goes under the name of ICRC bacillus. He served also as a governing body member of the Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation.

Dr. Khanolkar's death has created a void in the world of pathology. His contribution to leprosy and cancer research will always be remembered.—(Adapted from obituary in NLO Newsletter 7 [1978] 104)