

Email Interview with Prof. S. H. Ansari, Professor, Dept. of Pharmacognosy & Phytochemistry, School of Pharmaceutical Education and Education, Jamia Hamdard

Biography:

Prof. (Dr.) S.H. Ansari

M. Pharm., Ph.D., D.Sc.(hc)(WashingtonD.C., USA)
Professor, Deptt. of Pharmacognosy & Phytochemistry
School of Pharmaceutical Education and Research
Jamia Hamdard, Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi-110062
Former Vice Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard
Ex-Dean, School of Pharmaceutical Education & Research, Jamia Hamdard
Ex-Director-cum-Dean, School of Open and Distance Learning, Jamia Hamdard
Ex-Head, Deptt. of Pharmacognosy & Phytochemistry, SPER, Jamia Hamdard
Ex-Dean Students' Welfare, Jamia Hamdard
Ex-Chairman, Admission Committee, Jamia Hamdard



Academic Qualification

- D.Sc. (hc), International University of Contemporary Studies, Washington D.C., USA (2002)
- Ph.D., Jamia Hamdard (1997)
- M.Pharm, Punjab University, Chandigarh (1981)
- B.Pharm, Delhi University (1979)
- High School, U.P. Board, Allahabad (1973)

Awards and Honours:

- Pharma Ratan Award for Life Time Achievement by Rab Di Meher Society, 2016.
- Prof. M. L. Khorana Memorial Award for best paper published in IJPS, 2016.
- Lifetime Achievement Award by United Writers' Association, Chennai, 2004.
- Murgappa Sirse Memorial Award for best poster presented in 7th Annual National Convention of APTI at Goa, 2002.
- Best Young Pharmacy Teacher Award 1997-98 by APTI.
- Gold Medal of Excellence by Open University of Complimentary Medicines, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1998.
- Adjunct Professor, Mangalayatan University, Aligarh, UP.
- Ex-President, Society of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (SPER).
- Fellow of Society of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (FSPER), 2012.
- Fellow of Indian Chemists (FIC), 1994.
- Visiting Professor- ISTE for the year 2004 – 2005.
- Visiting Teacher ISTE for the Year 2001.
- Member Pharmacy Board of All India council for Technical Education.
- Member, Unani Pharmacopoeia Committee.
- Member, Board of Studies and Board of Research Studies of Nagpur University, M D University, Rohtak, Kurukshetra University, HNB Garhwal University, GLA University Mathura, Amity University.
- Member Executive Council, IFTM University, Moradabad
- Subject expert for Board of Control in Pharmaceutical Sciences of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab.

Life Membership: IPA, IPGA, APTI, ISTE, NESAs, Indian Society of Pharmacognosy, Indian Science Congress Association, Controlled Release Society, USA, Academy of Science, New Delhi.

Research Projects Handled: Approx Rs.5 crores of different funding agencies like AICTE, UGC, AYUSH, DST, DBT, DRDO and ICMR etc.

Number of Institutions Inspected on behalf of AICTE & PCI: Approx.200

Teaching & Research Work:

- 37 years of Teaching and 32 years of research experience.
- Guided 29 students for Ph.D and 30 for M.Pharm.
- Published 122 and 89 research papers in international and national journals respectively.
- Authored 4 text books of Pharmacognosy and contributed 3 book chapters and filed 2 patents.
- Presented 32 papers in International and 41 papers in National conferences.
- Delivered 44 lectures as resource person.

Editorial Team Member

- Editor in Chief, Journal of Natural Remedies
- Editor, International Journal of Pharmacognosy and Chinese Medicine (IPCM).

Countries visited

- 14 countries: USA, Australia, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, France, Hungary, Thailand, Bahrain, Saudi Arab, Iran, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka.

Editor: Sir, greetings from the editorial team of the “Current Trends in Pharmaceutical Research” (CTPR), an Official Journal of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dibrugarh University. Considering your vast teaching and research experiences in the field of Pharmacy, the editorial team of CTPR is happy to take an E-mail Interview of yours which will be published in the upcoming volume (Vol.8, issue-1, June 2021) to be released very shortly. It is expected that the readers will be inspired and motivated from your expressed thoughts. Therefore, I request you to pen down a few words in respect of the following framed inquiries-

1. Would you please share little about your academic and research journey?

I had graduated in 1979 from University of Delhi, Postgraduate from Punjab University Chandigarh, PhD from Jamia Hamdard and DSc (hc) from Washington DC. Started carrier as lecturer, University of Delhi in 1981. Got opportunity to serve Jamia Hamdard as Dean, School of Pharmaceutical education and Research (SPER), Dean Student Welfare (DSW), Director School of Open and Distance Learning (SODL) of Jamia Hamdard (Deemed to be University) and Vice

Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard as well. Contributed more than 200 research papers and four text books.

I have been bestowed with several awards and honors including “Best Young Pharmacy Teacher Award 1997-98” conferred by association of Pharmaceutical Teachers of India, “Gold Medal of Excellence” by the Open University of Complimentary Medicines, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1998, “Lifetime Achievement Award” by United Writers, Association, Chennai, 2004, “Pharma Ratan Award for Lifetime Achievement” by Rab Di Meher Society, 2016, “Prof. M. L. Khorana Memorial Award” for best paper published. Also conferred “Pratim Banerji Memorial Award” of Society for Ethno pharmacology (SFEC 2020). I am Fellow of Society of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (FSPER), Fellow of India Chemist (F.I.C.), Fellow Member of United Writers Association (FUWA) and Member/Life Member of 23 professional bodies. Research projects worth of Rs. 5 crores of different funding agencies have been handled and completed successfully under my supervision and many classical herbal formulations have been converted into modern dosage forms. Got opportunity to travel in more than 18 countries to share the research experiences.

2. To your opinion, what is the present scenario of natural product research in India?

Most of the plants found in India have been investigated phytochemically and pharmacologically. In India many traditional system of medicine are existing and are governed by department of AYUSH, ministry of health, Government of India. Each system of medicine like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy etc. have their own pharmacopoeias and formularies which includes large number of herbal formulations. In the present scenario we should try to established quality, efficacy, safety and stability parameters of these formulations.

3. How significant is North-East India as potential hub for drug discovery?

North-East India has a rich flora of medicinal plant. Although most of the plants have been investigated but still there is scope to establish the quality and safety of these plants or the specific part of these plants.

4. In which direction herbal drug research should move to combat COVID-19 pandemic?

Although there are many antiviral herbal drugs are known, but the time has now come to explore the antiviral activities of existing and new herbal drugs against COVID-19 virus and its mutants.

5. Please share your advice to young researchers to their research carrier.

Young researcher should be motivated to work on established herbal formulations mentioned in various formularies, especially to establish their safety and stability parameters.

In addition to this there is also lot of scope to convert the classical dosage form like Gutika, Arishta, Asava, Safoof (Powder), Khameera, Majoon etc. into modern dosage form like capsule, tablets and nanogels etc.