

OBITUARY
Distinguished and Emeritus Professor
A K Md Ehsanes Saleh (1932-2023)



A.K. Md. Ehsanes Saleh, Professor Emeritus and Distinguished Research Professor of Statistics at the School of Mathematics and Statistics, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada passed away on September 3, 2023. He was born in the Munshigonj district in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1932, and died at the age of 91 with his family beside him.

Professor A K Md Ehsanes Saleh is a prominent name in the international statistics space for his groundbreaking research, pioneering academic role, outstanding professional contributions and thought provoking supervision and mentoring in his discipline. Colleagues and peers of Professor Saleh, across the globe, have acknowledged and recognized his great contributions in many different ways. This includes the Honourary Membership of SCC, Canada, Fellow of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences; Fellow of IMS and ASA, USA; elected Fellow of RSS, UK; and elected Member of ISI, Netherlands; and life Member of Bangladesh Statistical Association, and Islamic Countries Society of Statistical Sciences (ISOSS). He was awarded highly prestigious QM Hossain Gold Medal by Bangladesh Statistical Association in 1992, ISESCO-ISOSS Gold Medal in 1999 in recognition of his best research in statistical sciences among the OIC member countries, ISOSS Gold Medal in 2005 for his book on Mathematical Statistics, Dhaka University (ISRT) Gold Medal in 2006 for his outstanding editorial services to the Journal of Statistical Research, and SSC Gold Medal in 2007 for his exceptional research and services.

Professor Saleh received his BSc (1951) and MSc (1953) degrees in Statistics from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and PhD (1965) degree in Statistics from the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He has been working at the Carleton University, Canada since 1966.

Professor Saleh has made seminal contributions in many areas of statistics, specifically in order statistics, L-estimation, preliminary test and shrinkage estimation, non-parametric estimation and auto-regression quantiles. He pioneered the work on optimum spacing for the ABLUE and test of hypothesis for the location/scale and quantile functions of location-scale families of distributions, preliminary test approach to Stein-type estimation in non-parametric settings. He is also the foremost scholar merging two diverse areas of robust statistics and shrinkage estimation to the benefit of all of us. In addition, his path-breaking work on auto-regression quantiles has opened the door for many fundamental researches in time-series. He is considered a world leader in nonparametric statistics for his outstanding contributions establishing the area of “Preliminary Test Approach to Shrinkage Estimation” in a nonparametric setting. His major research contributions are documented in his recent books “Theory of Preliminary Test and Stein-type Estimation with Applications” (2006), “Statistical Inference for Models with Multivariate t-Distributed Errors” (2014), and “Theory of Ridge Regression Estimation with Applications” (2019), all published by Wiley & Sons. He was intellectually active until his death, and was seriously pursuing his research producing his last book on “Rank-Based Methods for Shrinkage and Selection: With Application to Machine Learning” (2022).

Professor Saleh has trained many young statistician and presented many key note and invited addresses in various conferences in many countries around the globe. He was a visiting professor at Stanford University, MIT, UC at Berkeley, Michigan State University, Banach Centre in Poland, and University of Toronto. He has been an adjunct Professor in the Department of Biometry, Kansas University Medical Centre since 1984. He was the third Eugene Lukacs Distinguished (visiting) Professor (1992-93) in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Bowling Green State University, Ohio, USA.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, one daughter and several grandchildren.



Prof. Saleh with his wife



Some key participants in an International Statistics Conference in honour of Professor Saleh in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 2008.

From the left:

- Muhammad Hanif Mian (Pakistan),
- AK Md Ehsanes Saleh (Canada),
- M Obaidullah (Bangladesh),
- Shahjahan Khan (Australia / Bangladesh),
- Munir Ahmed (Pakistan / ISOSS),
- Abdun Nabi Ali (Libya),
- Emad Eldin Aly (Kuwait / Egypt),
- Shahidul Islam (Singapore).

Compiled and communicated by:

- **Emeritus Professor Dr. Shahjahan Khan**, University of Southern Queensland, Australia, and Vice Chancellor, Asian University of Bangladesh, Dhaka.
- **Professor Mina Norouzirad**, University of Lisbon, Portugal.
- **Professor Mohammad Arashi**, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran.
- **Professor B.M. Golam Kibria**, Florida International University, USA.

