



Chemical
Engineering Division
UICT, Mumbai

CITATION

Presented to

PROFESSOR ARUN S. MUJUMDAR

Professor Arun S. Mujumdar, or widely referred to by the global drying research community as the "Drying Guru," is a proud alumnus of the Institute of Chemical Technology of Mumbai University, where he received his first degree in Chemical Engineering in 1965. He then proceeded to obtain his master's and doctorate in Chemical Engineering from McGill University in Canada in 1968 and 1971, respectively.

It might be a surprise to most audiences but his two theses written at McGill had no connection to his beloved field of drying! It was only in mid-1970's when he started to have much interest in drying as he found that, although old and thought to be well understood, there was not much serious technical information on drying at that time. That point of enlightenment was indeed the starting point of a decades-long friendship between Drying and the Guru.

Professor Mujumdar's contributions to drying are enormous. He initiated and studied many novel ideas of drying at both the fundamental and applied levels. These include the novel idea of using superheated steam to dry paper, two-dimensional spouted bed, and intermittent spouted bed. During the process he has mentored scores of young researchers, some of which have started to contribute further to the area.

He initiated the International Drying Symposium series where researchers in drying find an effective forum to discuss and disseminate their thoughts and new findings since 1978. It is mainly through this series of events that drying has prospered as another important field of research on a truly international scale. A few years later, with the launch of Drying Technology, the only journal in the world devoted solely to the science and engineering of drying, the field has expanded further. Under his editorship since 1984 the journal has grown almost exponentially and represents a reliable archival source of peer-reviewed information where drying researchers turn to. Also, numerous regional and national conferences devoted to drying have emerged around the world over the past decade from his efforts.

It is our pleasure and honor to have the Guru here with us today. This event has indeed been made possible because of his vision, kind assistance and encouragement. We fervently believe that together we can make even further improvements and lasting contributions to this area.

In token thereof, and in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Drying R & D on global scale, IWSID-2004 and MUICT has duly resolved to bestow upon Professor Arun S. Mujumdar this lifetime achievements Award.