

## OBITUARY

### PROF. DR. ZAFAR ISHAQ ANSARI

We announce the passing away of Prof. Dr. Zafar Ishaq Ansari, a permanent, notable member of the Advisory Board of our journal, the *Hamdard Islamicus*.

Prof. Ansari (27 December 1932-24 April 2016), after graduation from the University of Karachi joined the McGill University, Canada and did his Ph. D. (1966) on the contributions of the two celebrated classical Muslim jurists and *fuqahā'*, Imām Abū Yūsuf and Imām Muḥammad b. al-Ḥasan al-Shaibānī. He also acquired mastery over Arabic, Persian, English, French and German languages.

He started his teaching and academic career from the Department of Oriental Studies of the Princeton University (USA). He also taught at various international universities. In Pakistan he served as the President of the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) and since 1988 had remained the Director General of its Islamic Research Institute and also the Editor of its quarterly research journal, the *Islamic Studies*.

After retirement he was appointed as Professor Emeritus of the University.

He was also a member of the International Scientific Committee of UNESCO.

Prof. Ansari was noted for his high standard of academic research, particularly about rendering the celebrated work of Maulānā Syed Abul A'lā Maudūdī, the *Tafhīm al-Qur'ān* into English entitled *Towards Understanding the Qur'ān* of which so far ten volumes

have been published. He was author of a number of books and articles on history, religion, law, Qur'ān, *Ḥadīth* and other social sciences. He has contributed a large number of research articles to journals of international repute and to *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and *Encyclopaedia of Religions*.

He will be long remembered for his contributions and it will not be easy to fill the gap created by his demise.

May Allah rest his soul in peace and grant solace to his bereaved family members and his well wishers – *Amen!*

*Islamicus*