

Obituaries

RAM B. MAGAL (1923–2000)

Sadly, I bring you news of the death of Ram B. Magal. Professor Magal was the Director of Programs, Fulbright House, New Delhi, from 1964 to 1968 and 1971 to 1983. In this capacity, his unabashed enthusiasm for international studies facilitated the research and happiness of generations of scholars. He had returned to India from Columbia University in 1952 to start the LVD College in Raichur, Karnataka. He also served as Associate Director, Callison College, Bangalore from 1968 to 1971.

I was fortunate to host his visit to the University of Pennsylvania during his 1998–99 trip to Philadelphia, when he eagerly absorbed every detail of activity at the Center for the Advanced Study of India, the South Asia Regional Studies department, and the South Asia collection at Penn's library. On a blustery day in driving rain, he bounced about with absolute glee as he shared stories of earlier days in Indo–U.S. educational exchanges, told captivating stories about his remarkable historic collection of Indian stamps, and conferred with Penn's South Asia bibliographer about the origins of undocumented old photos in Penn's collection. While serving as a walking, indeed galloping, encyclopedia, though, he was ever mindful to make the very human connections that weave scholars, stories, and institutions into possibilities for ever-greater research and exchange. He decided to tackle the mysteries of e-mail at an age when many would have been content to rest, and his short visit at Penn continues to bear fruit in links he made between students and mentors, connecting Tamil Nadu and Japan, Philadelphia, and Delhi.

Professor Magal died peacefully in Hyderabad on 12 January 2000, at the age of 76, just hours after greeting his new granddaughter, Lalitha Mohika. He was a raconteur, philatelist, scholar, *bon vivant*, and also a genuinely decent and generous human being. He is greatly missed.

Professor Magal is survived by his wife, Indira, currently visiting with relatives in Philadelphia; by two daughters in the Philadelphia area, documentary producer Uma Magal and computer programmer Anu Magal; by a son, Simha Magal, Professor of Management Information Systems at Bowling Green State University; and by three grandchildren.

VICTORIA FARMER
University of Pennsylvania

GEORGE EDMOND TAYLOR (1905–2000)

George Edmond Taylor was born in Coventry, England, December 13, 1905. Educated at Coventry Grammar School, he completed his BA degree at the University of Birmingham. As a Commonwealth Fund Fellow, he studied at Johns Hopkins University and Harvard University. He went to China in 1930 as a Harvard-Yenching Fellow and then served as a Professor of History at the Central Political Institute in