

ASIMA CHATTERJEE : A DOYEN IN THE CHEMISTRY OF NATURAL PRODUCTS

DHRUBAJYOTI CHATTOPADHYAY*

The year 2017 is the birth centenary of Dr. Asima Chatterjee, a doyen in the chemistry of Natural Products. She was one of the pioneer women scientists in India. In fact, she was the first woman to be awarded the Doctorate of Science (DSc) degree by any Indian University; first woman scientist to occupy a Chair of professor of any Indian university, first woman General President of the Indian Science Congress and also first woman scientist to receive the Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Award in Science and second person in chemical science. We know that the social and cultural taboos secluded women from the scientific research and science study; it was traditionally preserved for men for a long period throughout the world. Only a few women can come out to establish themselves due to their strong will force and unconditional love towards science. Asima Chatterjee was one of such woman scientist of India. Her major interest was on the Chemistry of Natural Products from Indian Medicinal Plants.
