

correlation of the absorption maxima and characteristic wavelength.

Bawa Kartar Singh published more than 150 research papers in journals like *Nature*, *Journal of the Chemical Society (England)*, *Journal of Indian Chemical Society*, *Proc. Indian Academy of Sciences*, *Proc. Lahore Phil. Society* and *Journal Scientific and Industrial Research of CSIR*. He delivered popular science lectures on stereochemistry, Walden inversion and the doctrine of symmetry in chemistry at the meetings of the Lahore Philosophical Society and the Indian Science Congress Association. He co-authored a book *Optical Activity and Chemical Constitution* with O. N. Perti.

I recall an interesting episode from the life of Bawa Kartar Singh. He had no research facility when he joined as Head

of the Chemistry department in Ravenshaw College, Cuttack. It so happened that Mahanth of Emar Math, Puri came to visit Ravenshaw College and Bawa took him to his laboratory. He told the Mahanth that he could not complete his experiments as he did not have a polarimeter. The Mahanth of Puri was so impressed by the spiritual aura of his personality that he donated an amount which enabled him to buy a polarimeter for his laboratory.

Bawa is considered as father of stereochemistry in India. He was a dedicated teacher and researcher. I gather from his family sources that he was one of the members of an enquiry committee constituted by the British Govt of India to probe some fictitious charges against C. V. Raman. Bawa was an admirer and

a friend of Raman. Naturally, he gave his opinion in favour of Raman. A photograph of Bawa with Raman in Bangalore on this occasion is a prize possession of the Bawa family.

1. Perti, O. N., *J. Indian Chem. Soc.*, 1961, **38**, 259–260.
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3. Virk, H. S., *Our Scientists* (in Punjabi), Centre for Promotion of Science, G.N.D. University, Amritsar, 1990, pp. 21–26.
4. Col. Bawa Gurvachan Singh, New Delhi (Pers. Commun.).

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