



**Prof . Shashi Wadhwa, MS, Ph.D**

**BK Bachhawat Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed to a Neuroscientist for his/her scientific contributions in biochemistry/neuroscience in memory of stalwart of Indian Biochemistry & Neurochemistry, Professor B. K. Bachhawat.**

Dr. Shashi Wadhwa graduated from Jabalpur Medical College, MP in 1970. She completed her postgraduate studies towards MS Anatomy and PhD degree at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi where she also worked till her superannuation as Professor and Head of the Department of Anatomy and Dean. She has taught and trained a large number of undergraduates and postgraduates of MSc, MS and PhD since 1972 at AIIMS. She has 67 International and 37 National research publications, 27 Chapters in books and has edited/co-edited 13 books and monographs.

She took additional charge of Electron microscope Facility under the DST's SAIF program in 1998 and steered it to its present status. This facility provides expert help in transmission and scanning electron microscopy, energy dispersive x-ray spectroscopy (EDS) for the elemental analysis and immuno- electronmicroscopy for diagnostics and research in biology catering to almost 300 users per year from different parts of the country. In addition, training was provided to researchers, technicians and students every year. Her efforts led to further upgrading the facility with high resolution TEM and 3D tomographic imaging for the users.

Her major research interests have been in developmental neurobiology, quantitative morphology and stereology as well as electron microscopy. Her notable contributions on quantitative, immunochemical and ultrastructural studies on the human fetal brain have helped in the better understanding of processes involved in the development of these regions. The critical time periods in their development have been highlighted during which these are susceptible to alterations in the microenvironment of the fetus. These studies have provided baseline data for comparison with pathological material and animal experiments.

Her laboratory has also investigated the effects of patterned sound and chronic noise on developing chick auditory pathway and the hippocampus. Differential behavioral response and quantitative morphological, ultrastructural and neurochemical basis of mechanism of the effects of prenatal loud music and noise have been reported. Such paradigms may help understand beneficial effects or deficits and disorders related to language acquisition and learning in children.

Dr. Shashi Wadhwa is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Science, National Academy of Science (India), National Academy of Medical Science, Electron Microscope Society of India, Indian Academy of Neuroscience and Founder Fellow of Anatomical Society of India. She is the recipient of the Dr. H.K. Chatterjee Memorial Gold Medal, 1983 (ASI), Shakuntala Amir Chand Prize, 1988 (ICMR), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, 1991(CSIR) and Prof. Shamer Singh Memorial Oration, 2002 (ASI). She also received the FAONS best poster award at Seoul in 2002. She is a member of IBRO, SfN (USA), International Society for Stereology and life member of various National Societies and bodies.