



School of Chemical Sciences,  
Mahatma Gandhi University,  
Kottayam



# *In Memoriam*

(1963–2021)

# Dr. K. PIUS MEMORIAL LECTURE

By

**Prof. Nisanth N. Nair**

Professor,  
Department of Chemistry,  
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur



2:00 pm  
**17 JANUARY, 2025**



at  
**MARIE CURIE AUDITORIUM,**  
School of chemical Sciences



**JOIN US**

Dr. K. Pius, born on May 25, 1963, in Pala, Kottayam District, was a renowned scientist who specialized in theoretical organic chemistry. His academic career culminated with a Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, under the supervision of Dr. J. Chandrasekhar. He has supervised the completion of six doctoral degrees. Dr. K. Pius was an outstanding educator who was committed to promoting educational excellence in addition to his scientific accomplishments. His position as an Associate Professor at Mahatma Gandhi University's School of Chemical Sciences demonstrated not only his technical expertise, but also his dedication to educating future generations. Dr. K. Pius was a person who exemplified generosity, friendliness, and courtesy, and you grew to admire and appreciate him. Dr. K. Pius passed away on January 28, 2021. Despite his death, his legacy lives on through the information he provided and the impact he had on the lives of both his students and colleagues.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are honored to invite you to a Memorial Meeting & Lecture honoring the late Dr. K. Pius on January 17, 2025. This event honors Dr. K. Pius's lasting contributions to theoretical chemistry as well as his profound presence in the School of Chemical Sciences' academic community. We hope that your presence will enhance the occasion and contribute to a respectful recollection of a notable individual who has had a significant impact on our academic community.

Sincerely,

**Prof. (Dr.) Anitha C. Kumar**  
(Director, SCS)

**Dr. Subila K B**  
(Convenor)



## About Speaker

Prof. Nisanth N. Nair received his MSc in Chemistry from IIT Madras in 2001, and his PhD from Theoretische Chemie, Universität Hannover, Germany, in 2004. Following a brief period of postdoctoral research at the Lehrstuhl für Theoretische Chemie, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany, he became a faculty member at IIT Kanpur in 2008. Prof. Nair's research focuses on developing ab initio molecular dynamics tools and applying them to the study of chemical processes in solution, enzymes, and diverse solid catalysts. His research interests include understanding antibiotic resistance mechanisms caused by  $\beta$ -Lactamase, predicting catalytic reactions with zeolites, and designing novel polyimides. Prof. Nair has received various prizes and recognitions, including the Young Scientist Medal from the Indian Academy of Science Academy (INSA), the Young Associate of Indian Academy of Sciences, Distinguished Lectureship Award from Chemical Society of Japan, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam HPC Award from Hewlett Packard Enterprise, and Bronze Medal of Chemical Research Society of India among several others.

## PROGRAMME

### 2:00 pm : Memorial Meeting

- Welcome Speech : Dr. Subila K. B  
(Asst. Professor, SCS, Convenor)
- Presidential Speech : Prof. (Dr.) Anitha C. Kumar  
(Director, SCS)
- Inaugural Speech : Prof. (Dr.) C. T. Aravindakumar  
(Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, MGU)

*Remembering Dr. K. Pius by colleagues and Students*

### 3:00 pm : Lecture

- : Prof. Nisanth N. Nair  
(Professor, Department of Chemistry, IIT, Kanpur)

***"Exploring Rugged Energy  
Landscapes of Enzymatic Reactions"***

### 4:00 pm : Vote of Thanks

- : Dr. Chithra Mohan  
(Asst. Professor, SCS)

### 4:15 pm : Tea