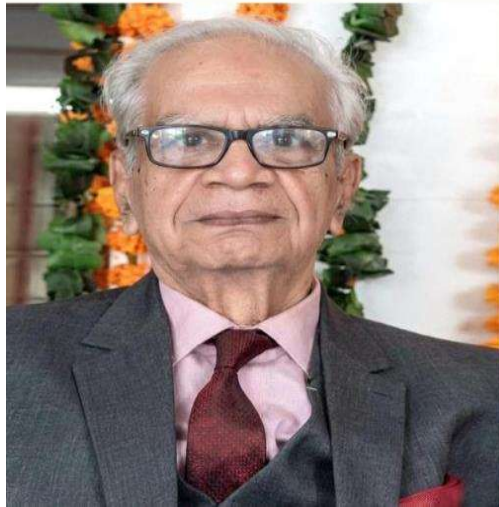


## A TRIBUTE



**Prof. Kewal Krishan Virmani**

03/07/1934 – 09/03/2026

Today we pay tribute and celebrate life of Prof. KK Virmani, an exceptional teacher, mentor, and researcher whose dedication to knowledge has inspired many of us. He was one of the scholars of the **first** batch of MA in African Studies of the Department of African Studies. He was appointed in the Department of African Studies as a Lecturer in Swahili Language where he taught till 1999. He pursued Swahili language course at SOAS, England. For his research he visited several African countries like Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Zambia. His contribution to the Department has been immense. As an avid researcher he actively contributed to the Journal of African and Asian Studies published by the Department as early as 1966. During his tenure as Head, he launched a journal focused on African issues titled *Ind-Africana* in 1988, which was later replaced in 1992 by the current Departmental publication, the *Indian Journal of African Studies*. He has six remarkable books and numerous scholarly articles to his credit through which he made a lasting contribution to the field of African Studies and Swahili language and to the world of learning. But his true legacy goes beyond publications. As a teacher, he encouraged curiosity and critical thinking. As a mentor, he guided students and colleagues

with patience, wisdom, and generosity. Many of us here have benefited not only from his knowledge, but also from his guidance and encouragement. His work and values remind us that education is not only about sharing information, but about inspiring minds and shaping futures. In his continued journey to the other world, he continues to educate and transform the lives of many as his family honouring his wishes donated his eyes to the Guru Nanak Eye Hospital and his body to the Army Hospital. Today, with gratitude and admiration, we celebrate this legacy and the lasting light he has given to so many.

Rashmi Kapoor

(With inputs from Mrs. Mohini Virmani, wife of Prof. K.K. Virmani)