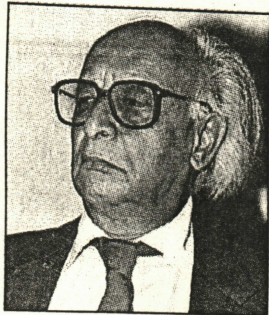


## M N Srinivas is dead

DH News Service

BANGALORE, Nov 30  
Internationally renowned sociologist Dr M N Srinivas, who is remembered for his pioneering works, died after a brief illness in the City in the early hours of today.

He was 83 and is survived by his wife and two daughters. His last rites were performed in the city. He was Professor Emeritus of Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC) and visiting profes-



sor at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore.

Dr Srinivas was a world-renowned social anthropologist and an international authority on Indian society, in particular the caste system. His *The Remembered Village*, is a classic of sociological literature.

Born on November 16, 1916, he graduated with an honours degree in social philosophy from Maharaja's College in Mysore and obtained his Phd from Bombay University.

He went to Oxford and worked with renowned sociologists of that time such as Radcliffe Brown and Evans Pritchard and was given a D Phil degree. He worked at Oxford as a university lecturer from 1948 to 1951.

He returned to India in 1951. He occupied the first chair in sociology there at Baroda University. He was a professor at M S University at Baroda from 1951 to 1958. Then he became the first incumbent of another new chair of sociology at

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## M.N. Srinivas dead

By Our Special Correspondent

BANGALORE, NOV. 30. Prof. M. N. Srinivas, well-known sociologist, passed away here today following a brief illness. He was 83. He is survived by wife and two daughters.

One of the better known sociologists, whose works attracted international recognition, Prof. Srinivas is best known for his theory of "Sanskritisation" in which he had observed that the lower castes in Indian or Hindu society emulated the upper castes and adopted their customs and mores as a form of advancement. The theory has held good though it has been challenged by later day sociologists.

Prof. Srinivas was also known for the methodology he had evolved for his research projects — the evolution of the concept of "Participant observation" under which the researcher lived with the people he studied. He had lived amidst the people of Ram-pura village in Mysore district about which he wrote his famous treatise "The Remembered Village". When his original manuscripts regarding the book were destroyed in a fire in an American university in the Seventies, the then American President, Richard Nixon, apologised to him. His other better known work was "Social Change in Modern India".

Prof. Srinivas, who hailed from Mysore city, had graduated from the Maharaja's College in Mysore. His elder brother, M. N. Parthasarathy (Patchhu) had taught English in the Maharaja's College and was better known for his cricket commentaries.

He was later educated in Bombay and Oxford universities and had taught Social Anthropology in Bombay, Maharaja Sayajirao (Baroda) and Delhi universities besides some foreign universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Stanford, Cornell and Canberra as a visiting professor. He was the recipient of honorary doctorates from Nice (France), Mysore, Chicago and Delhi universities. He had been awarded the Padmabhushan by the Union Government, and the T. H. Huxley Memorial Medal by the Royal Anthropological Institute (England) and also the Kannada Rajyotsava Award (1996).

Prof. Srinivas was one of the founders of the Institute for Social and Economic Change in Bangalore along with Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao. He was its Joint Director and later Professor Emeritus. He was also a Fellow of the National Institute of Advanced Studies, here.

PTI reports from New Delhi:

The President, Mr. K.R. Narayanan, has condoled the death of Mr. Srinivas. The President said Mr. Srinivas was an incisive thinker whose understanding of the Indian society and social change had been phenomenal.