Mumtaz Ali Khan, Bangalore.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR contribution to science, society and Indianness.

A great loss to the country

In Dr Raja Ramanna's death, we have lost an Indian who combined many sterling qualities. He was a renowned nuclear scientist respected all over the world. He brought fame and name to our country with the Pokhran nuclear test.

He was a great humanist respecting all religions. To him religion without humanism had no meaning and relevance. He was a well-known musician. His simplicity despite having occupied several top positions was a special characteristic.

Once I sent my farm-grown mallika mangos to his house. He said, "Prof Khan, these are extremely delicious mangos. "Tell me how much have I to pay you?" When I told him the mangos were not for sale, he retorted "No, you must recover your cost price"

He had special appreciation for my lectures in his National Institute for Advanced Studies. He made me Associate Member of the Institute. He asked me to give him a copy of my book, "Modernisation Among Muslims".

He returned the book with a note in it saying "you have proved that Islam stands for scientific scrutiny."

He will always be remembered for his great

Letters to the Editor should be addresse