



GANTI PRASADA RAO was born in Seethanagaram, Andhra Pradesh, India, on August 25, 1942. He studied at the College of Engineering, Kakinada and received the B.E. degree in Electrical Engineering from Andhra University, India in 1963, with first class and high honours. He received the M.Tech. (Control Systems Engineering) and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering in 1965 and 1970 respectively, both from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, India.

From July 1969 to October 1971, he was with the Department of Electrical Engineering, PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore, India as an Assistant Professor. In October 1971 he joined the Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Kharagpur as an Assistant Professor and was a Professor there from May 1978 to June 1997. From May 1978 to August 1980, he was the Chairman of the Curriculum Development Cell (Electrical Engineering) established by the Government of India at IIT Kharagpur. From October 1975 to July 1976, he was with the Control Systems Centre, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST), Manchester, England, as a Commonwealth Postdoctoral Research Fellow. During October 1981- November 1983, May-June 1985 and May-June 1991, July 2003 and September 2004, he visited the Lehrstuhl für Elektrische Steuerung und Regelung, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany as a Research Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. He visited the Fraunhofer Institut für Rechnerarchitektur und Softwaretechnik (FIRST) Berlin in July 2003 and September 2004. He was a visiting professor in the summer of 2003 at University Henri Poincaré, Nancy, France. During 1992-1996 he was Scientific Advisor to the Directorate of Power and Desalination Plants, Water and Electricity Department, Government of Abu Dhabi and the International Foundation for Water Science and Technology where he worked in the field of desalination plant control. He is presently a Member of the UNESCO-EOLSS Joint Committee.

He has authored/coauthored four books: *Piecewise Constant Orthogonal Functions And Their Applications to Systems and Control*, *Identification of Continuous Dynamical Systems- The Poisson Moment Functional (PMF) Approach* (with D.C. Saha) , *Generalised Hybrid Orthogonal Functions and their Applications in Systems and Control* (with A. Patra) all the three published by Springer in 1983, 1983 and 1996 respectively, and *Identification of Continuous Systems* (with H. Unbehauen) Published by North Holland in 1987. He is Co-Editor (with N.K. Sinha) of *Identification of Continuous Systems - Methodology and Computer Implementation*,

Kluwer, 1991. He has authored/coauthored over 150 research papers.

He is on the Editorial Boards of *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF DESALINATION AND WATER RESOURCES*, *International Journal of Modeling and Simulation*, *Control Theory and Advanced Technology (C-TAT)*, *Systems Science (Poland)*, *Systems Analysis Modeling and Simulation (SAMS)* and *The Students' Journal of IETE (India)*. He was Guest Editor of two Special Issues: one of *C-TAT on Identification and Adaptive Control - Continuous time approaches*, Vol.9, NO.1, March 1993, and *The Students' Journal of IETE on Control*, Vols. I&II, 1992-93. He is on the Honorary Editorial Advisory Boards of *The American Biographical Research Institute* and UNESCO-EOLSS Joint Committee of *Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems*. He organized several invited sessions in IFAC Symposia on Identification and System Parameter Estimation, 1988, 1991, 1994 and World Congress 1993. He was a member of the International Program Committees of these Symposia during 1988-1997. He was a member of the IFAC Technical Committee on Modelling, Identification and Signal Processing in 1996. He was Chairman of the Technical Committee of the 1989 National Systems Conference in India. He is co-editor (with Achim Sydow) of the book series "*Numerical Insights Series*" published by Taylor and Francis. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Internal Study Group on Water and Energy Systems (ISGWES).

Since 1996, Prof. Rao has been closely associated with the development, from concept to completion, of the *Encyclopedia of Desalination and Water Resources (DESWARE)* and *Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS)*, two major publications of Eolss Publishers, Oxford, UK. The former which is equivalent to 9 printed volumes, each of about 500 pages, now published at www.desware.net and the latter that is equivalent to well over 200 volumes of similar size developed under the auspices of the UNESCO as an archival source of knowledge with focus on sustainable development. The Inaugural Edition of the EOLSS was released on 3rd September 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa at www.eolss.net and is chosen by UNESCO as the main vehicle for United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014. At the same time three print volumes '*Knowledge for Sustainable Development: An Insight into the EOLSS*' were also released.

He received several academic awards including the IIT Kharagpur Silver Jubilee Research Award 1985, The Systems Society of India Award 1989, International Desalination Association Best Paper Award 1995 and Honorary Professorship of the East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai. He was elected to the Fellowship of the IEEE with the citation 'FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CONTINUOUS TIME IDENTIFICATION TECHNIQUES'. The International Foundation for Water Science and Technology has established the 'Systems and Information Laboratory' in the Electrical Engineering Department at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, in his honor.

He is listed in several biographical volumes such as *Marquis Who is Who in the World*, *Who is Who in Science and Technology*, *Who is Who in Finance and Industry*, *Who is Who in the Commonwealth*, *Dictionary of International Biography*, *International Directory of Distinguished Leadership*, *International Book of Honor*, *Men of Achievement*, *Reference Asia* and *Five Thousand Personalities of the World, 2000 Intellectuals of the 21st Century*, etc..

Prof. Rao is a Life Fellow of The Institution of Engineers (India), Life Member Systems Society of India, Indian Society for Technical Education, Fellow of The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (India), Fellow of IEEE (USA) and a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering.

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