

Khan, Fazlur R.

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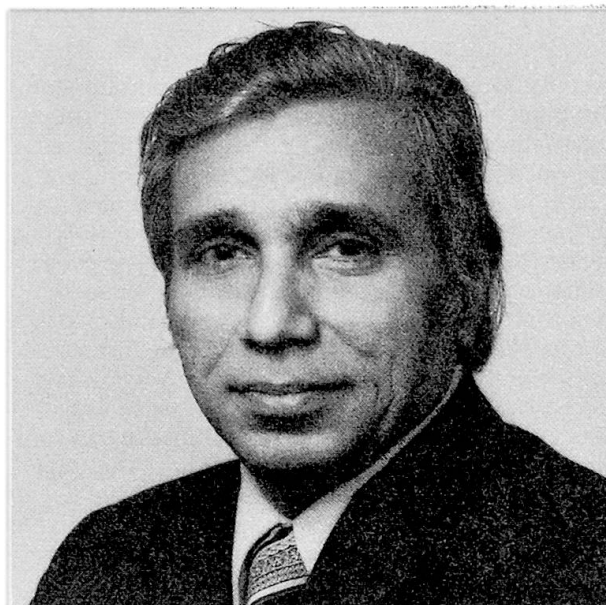
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1. Obituary — Nécrologie — Nachruf



In memoriam Fazlur R. Khan

Fazlur R. Khan, general partner of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, who was the chief structural engineer for the Sears Tower, the world's tallest Building, died of a heart attack on March 27, 1982. He was 52.

"His sudden death has robbed the world of an inestimable wealth of ideas, inspiration, and grand design that were still to come from his wonderfully fertile mind. The mild-mannered man whose greatest ideas stand as monuments as great as Chicago's Sears Tower leaves marks of his genius all around the world. He was in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) working on design of a new university when stricken by a massive heart attack.

Fazlur Khan was a philosopher among engineers, a master-builder among architects, a teacher among students, a thought leader in a world of followers. He was as sensitive to the needs of people as he was respectful of the forces of nature. He was at once a resource and catalyst among those with whom he worked. His influence spread from his Chicago office to their projects around the world.

The design professions, the construction industry and the people for whom he performed his works of genius must be satisfied with his magnificent accomplishments to date. The consoling facts are that his structures will stand for years, and his ideas will never die." (Engineering News Record)

Fazlur Khan was also an enthusiastic member of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering. Besides his many outstanding technical contributions as Chairman of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, the IABSE Working Commission "Design Concepts" and the Task Group "Aesthetics and Structural Engineering" he was a driving force to promote international collaboration on the highest professional level. Our profession has lost an eminent engineer, many of us have lost an inspiring colleague and dear friend.

*Prof. B. Thürlimann
President, IABSE*

The International Award of Merit in Structural Engineering remitted to Dr. Fazlur Khan

The Executive Committee of IABSE decided at its 57th meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, on March 24, 1982, to confer the International Award of Merit in Structural Engineering to Dr. Fazlur Khan "in appreciation of his outstanding contributions in the field of structural engineering, and in particular in

the development of innovative concepts and designs of tall buildings".

The Award was presented posthumously to Mrs. Khan by Mr. G. F. Fox, Vice-President of IABSE, at the memorial service in Chicago for Fazlur Khan on May 6, 1982.