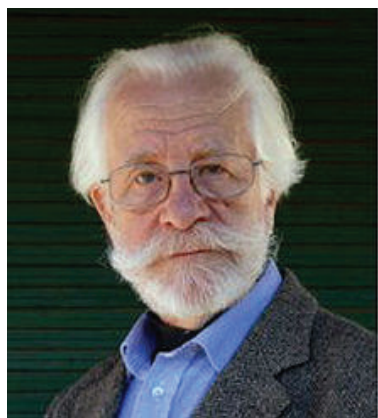

In Memoriam: Robert Killick-Kendrick

BIOGRAPHY

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Robert Killick-Kendrick was born on 29 June 1929, Hampton, UK. He is a dedicated and outstanding parasitologist specialized in infectious diseases and tropical medicine, particularly in the parasites that cause diseases in humans and other mammals, including malaria, African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) and leishmaniasis. It is my great pleasure and honor to introduce Professor Robert Killick-Kendrick to the Palestinian readers, parasitologists, and tropical medicine specialists. He has been considered one of the leading scientists and researchers devoted his life to work for the sake of science all over the World. I met Professor Killick-Kendrick in 2002. At that time, he was on a field trip to study leishmaniasis disease in the country, he visited Jerusalem, Jericho, Jenin and other areas. I was lucky to join him with other students.

“Bob”, as he was known to all his friends, early research was on African trypanosomiasis and malaria. In 1972, he set up a research unit at Imperial College

funded by the Wellcome Trust and the Medical Research Council of the United Kingdom to study leishmaniasis and phlebotomine sandflies. He joined the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1949 as a laboratory assistant, on 1963 He joined the London School to continue research on malaria parasites (Lainson et al. 2011). Bob extended his interest into leishmaniasis disease in Latin America, Middle East and southern France, where he collaborating with Professor Rioux at the University of Montpellier, France. Bob married with Mireille Bailly; a sand fly specialist gaining much more interest in the study of *Leishmania* vectors. His major work in Montpellier was concentrated on the eco-epidemiology of *L. (L.) infantum* and role of *Phlebotomus ariasi* as the vector of visceral leishmaniasis in France and neighboring countries, resulted in a number of research papers concerning the sand fly-parasite relationship, mechanism of sand fly bite transmission, ecology and wind dispersal, sugars meals of the sand flies from plants and "honey-dew" from aphids. He has invaluable contribution in sand fly control demonstrating the effectiveness of insecticide impregnated dog collars in killing or repelling sand fly vectors attempting to bite the major, canine reservoir host of *L. infantum* (Rioux et al. 2012). During his scientific life, he authored/coauthored 300 research papers and several specialized books in infectious diseases.

Robert Killick-Kendrick died on 22/10/2011 aged 82 in France, but his scientific heritage will be remembered by his students, colleagues and friends.

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