

# Preface to the Second Edition

Several universities have introduced molecular biology in their curricula, and many others are contemplating to do so in the near future. Not many textbooks on general basic molecular biology are available, although advanced-level reference books have been published.

Having been engaged in the teaching of molecular and microbial genetics and biotechnology for the last several years, I have written this text to cater to the needs of undergraduate students. My objective has been to introduce the beginner students of science, agriculture, medicine and environment to some essentials of cell biology, elementary and prerequisite biochemistry, nucleic acids and protein synthesis, molecular genetics and modern gene concept. Some basic tools and techniques have been highlighted and covered concisely. Recent work on genomics and proteomics is described briefly.

Any suggestions for improvement of the text, or for inclusion or deletion of certain topics, will be greatly appreciated.

I wish to thank M. Ohmori (Tokyo), Dorothy L. Parker (La Jolla, California), Hyung-Hoan Lee and Yong-Hyun Lee (S. Korea) for their continuing encouragement and friendship, and Ashok Kumar and J. B. Singh (Varanasi) for their help in various ways. The manuscript was typed by G. P. Shukla and M. P. Dubey and some of the illustrations were drawn by Subhajeet Saha.

H.D. KUMAR

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**H.D. KUMAR**

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