

PREFACE

Rapid development in the field of genetics, cytology, biochemistry, and embryology etc., in the last few decades made us to realize the utmost significance of embryology in understanding various problems of the life. The old descriptive embryology, therefore, has been combined with dynamic experimental physiological approach or more correctly an altogether a new branch called, the developmental biology.

The present publication is intended for beginners who wish to understand the fundamentals of developmental biology. The whole gamut of subject has been described in a simple and systematic manner suited for readers who have not been exposed sufficiently to the subject. The publication includes Gametogenesis; Fertilization; Cleavage; Blastulation; Gastrulation; Development of *Amphioxus*, Frog and Chick; Metamorphosis; Neural Induction and Differentiation etc. As a comprehensive introduction to developmental biology, this book is up-to-date with current developments. The book is likely to serve as a textbook for B.Sc. (Gen.), B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. students of several Indian Universities.

I do not claim, any originality in the account of this book because this is merely a compilation from different sources viz, several classical and modern textbooks, monographs of embryology and cell biology. Suggestions for the improvement of the book shall be highly appreciated from the teachers and students.

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