

Preface

Our understanding of living things is largely equivalent to what we know about the composition of protoplasm and the intricate biochemical reactions by which it is formed, broken down, and enabled to function. In particular, the recent marked advances and the future progress in the field of medicine depend upon an expanding knowledge of microbiology. Microbiology, which was only a fledgling twenty-five years ago, has now developed into a vastly complex science growing at an accelerated pace. This phenomenal development and its relation to the understanding of life processes is imposing ever-increasing demands upon students and the departments of microbiology teaching them. It is also rendering increasingly difficult the writing of textbooks which encompass the current facts and theories of the general field of microbiology.

This book is being prepared by keeping in view the requirements of the students at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Arrangements of chapters and topics is as such that it is easily followed by the students. The subject matter is described in such a way that it is easily accessible to general students while providing substance comprehensive enough to challenge more experienced readers. It is hoped that the book is useful not only to the students but also to the academic professionals.

The author expresses his gratitude to staff members of M/s Sonali Publications, Darya Ganj, New Delhi for their whole hearted cooperation in the publication of this book.

The author tried hard to be accurate and upto date in statement and realises the impossibility of completely avoiding errors therefore, the author will greatly appreciate having his attention called to any questionable statement.

Author