

September 28, 1959

Dr. K. Bhaskaran  
Ram Niwas  
V. S. Ram Marg,  
New Hyderabad  
Lucknow, India

Dear Dr. Bhaskaran:

I have been most interested to receive your letters of June and August. We have been rather busy here settling into our new laboratories.

You referred to the "instability of the P factor in V. cholerae unlike F in B. coli." I think you must have meant like in view of the context of this sentence and the facts of the case. I'm not sure I could document this but I would be surprised if we did not have some examples of instability in colicinogeny as well as the carriage of F. In any event each case has to be studied sui generis. The main question I had put to you was whether the lytic effect of P+ strains should be associated with a bacteriophage or with a lytic factor like colicin more intimately associated with the source bacterium. I will be very happy to continue to receive notices of your work.

I regret, however, that all the places in my laboratory are at present filled and that this must prevent me from accommodating you in the near future at least. I trust you will have written to Dr. Stocker to see if he is in a more favorable situation. As another suggestion I might mention the name of Dr. M. Demerec at Cold Spring Harbor, the Department of Genetics at the Carnegie Institution.

I understand the difficulties you must face in working in isolation on such subtle problems. You have my earnest commendations for the important progress you have made.

As still one other alternative suggestion I might mention the name of Dr. P. Fredericq, whose work you undoubtedly know, and whose address is:

Institut de Bacteriologie  
Universite de Liege  
1, Rue de Bonnes Villas  
Liege, Belgium

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics