

Jayant Vishnu Narlikar



Jayant Vishnu Narlikar, who broke new grounds in Cosmology and Astrophysics, was born on July 19, 1938 in Kolhapur, Maharashtra. Dr. Narlikar received his early education in the campus of Banaras Hindu University, (BHU) where his father Vishnu Vasudeva Narlikar was a Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Narlikar obtained his B. Sc. Degree in 1957 and he went to Cambridge, UK, for higher studies. He obtained BA, MA, Ph. D. and Sc. D., all from the University of Cambridge. Dr. Narlikar is Internationally acclaimed for his work in Cosmology especially the steady State Theory that is an alternative to the more popular Big Bang model. He did this work with the famous Scientist and writer Sir Fred Hoyle. More recently in collaboration with Sir Fred Hoyle and Dr. Geoffrey Burbidge he formulated the Quasi State Cosmology. In this model the universe, has neither a beginning nor an end, matter is being created continuously.

After returning to India Dr. Narlikar joined the IIFR (1972-1989). He is the founder Director of the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) where he is at present Emeritus Professor.

Dr. Narlikar is a Scientist of multi faceted talent, which covered a large canvas of human intellectual activities. He did fundamental work in Cosmology, action at a Distance, Gravitation, Quasars and High Energy Astrophysics including Quantum Cosmology. Dr. Narlikar was also a prolific writer on general science and a successful science fiction writer.

Dr. Narlikar received numerous awards and honour in his brilliant academic career. He obtained the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award in 1978 and the Unesco's Kaling award for his service to the Popularization of Science. He was named partner of the Royal Astronomical Society in London in 1963 and was honoured by the Astronomical Society of France in 2004. Apart from these honours received awards and honours from various Institutions in India and Abroad. He gave 16th Convocation

Address in Indian Statistical Institute on 6th February 1982. The title of his talk was 'Statistical Techniques in Astronomy'.

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