



Bidhu Bhushan Ray – A Pioneer of X-Ray Spectroscopy by Rajinder Singh Published by Shaker Verlag (Aachen), Pages 158, Softbound EUR 21,90 from Amazon.fr.

Bidhu Bhushan Ray – A Pioneer of X-Ray Spectroscopy by Rajinder Singh, is a biographical account of Bidhu Bhushan Ray along with his work on X-rays. The book has a foreword by Suprakash Chandra Roy and is also dedicated to him.

In the introduction the author introduces B.B. Ray as the person who initiated X-ray spectroscopy, and that few proper biographies on him are present.

In the next chapter a brief biographical account of

Bidhu Bhushan Ray is presented, along with a brief discussion on his D.Sc. thesis and his receiving the Palit Foreign Scholarship for his travel abroad. In the following chapter, amongst other things his relation with Rabindranath Tagore and his interaction with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose were discussed.

B.B. Ray's research under the supervision of C.V. Raman, his collaboration with M.N. Saha and his views on the new Quantum Mechanics is presented in the next chapter.

His work on the theory of Glory phenomenon, which is caused by interference of internally reflected light from tiny water droplets in mist and clouds, giving rise to rainbow-like color rings is discussed in the next chapter.

B.B. Ray's notable contribution in X-ray spectroscopy was discussed and how his work reinforced Bohr's model. He also showed that the scattered X-ray is Raman-shifted, which gave rise to a controversy, since initial experiments by J.M. Cork failed to confirm his observations. This controversy was finally settled by the observations by A. Sommerfeld, which verified B.B. Ray's observations.

In the chapter prior to concluding remarks, list of publications, bibliography, index and a brief introduction of the author, a list of honors received by B.B. Roy was discussed.

This book transports the reader into his time where one gets glimpses of events as they occur and also the controversies and interpersonal conflicts of at both national and international level. The book provides an account of the history of his era, with anecdotes and quotes and is quite readable. □

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