

ALBERT EINSTEIN'S INTERACTION WITH INDIAN PHYSICISTS - THEORY OF RELATIVITY AND INDIA'S REACTION

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About hundred years ago, British astrophysicists confirmed Albert Einstein's hypothesis that sun's gravitational field deflects light. Indian English daily "The Statesman" in its Nov. 12, 1919 edition reported the results. Publication of the news is often mentioned in M.N. Saha's biographies, who with S.N. Bose, in those days was translating A. Einstein's and Hermann Minkowski's papers in English, which were later published in the form of a book titled "The principle of relativity". Einstein's correspondence with Indian men of science are available. Results of its analysis will be explored in a forthcoming book. In the present communication, the exchange of ideas between Indian scientists and Einstein on the theory of relativity, and reception of the theory by Indian scientific community are explored. Also, it is argued that in the beginning of the 20th century Indian men of science were well equipped, and did not work in isolation.
