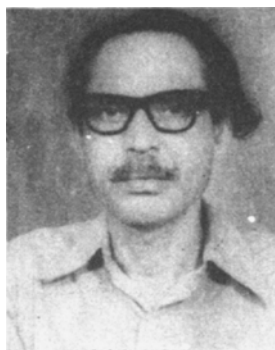


## OBITUARY

### Apurba Kumar Chakravarty

Dr. Apurba Kumar Chakravarty was born on 1 March 1925 at Mymensing (now in Bangladesh), and breathed his last on Thursday, January 4, 2001 at Mahisadal, Midnapur, West Bengal. He obtained M.Sc. degree in Mathematics from Calcutta University, and Ph.D. from Jadavpur University, and began his career in 1948 as a lecturer of mathematics at the Dibrugarh College, Assam. He also served as a lecturer of mathematics at the Imphal College, Manipur. In 1957 he joined Mahisadal Raj College and served there till his retirement in 1990. His research interest was mainly in the areas of Calendars and Siddhantic Astronomy. He contributed a number of articles in the *Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal*, *Indian Journal of History of Science*, *Encyclopaedia of History of Science Technology and Medicine in Non-Western Culture* (The Netherlands, 1997). He also authored a few books on Indian Astronomy. The important among his contributions to the Indian Astronomy are as follows :



**Apurba Kumar  
Chakravarty**  
(1925-2001)

1. "Later Reforms of the Siddhantic Calendar" *The Calcutta Review*, Oct.-Dec., 1969.
2. *Origin and Development of Indian Calendrical Sciences*, *Indian Studies*, Calcutta, 1975.
3. "Works of Samuel Davis", *Visheshwaranand Indological Journal*, 28 (1980).
4. "Works of Samuel Davis on Hindu Astronomy", *Bharati Bhanam* (Light of Indology). Dr. K.V. Sarma Felicitation Volume, ed. by 5, Bhaskarvan Nair, 1980.
5. "The Dark Age", *Ganita Bhārati* 4. 3-4 (1982).
6. "Indian Calendar from Post-Vedic Period to AD 1900" with Commodore S.K. Chatterjee in the book, *History of Astronomy in India*, pp. 252-307 (Editors, S.N. Sen and K.S. Shukla), 1985, published by Indian National Science Academy (INSA) New Delhi.
7. "Appendix IV The Asterisms", "Appendix VI—Some Remarks on Brij Bhusan Vij's paper on Linear Standard in the Indus Civilization", in *History of Science and Technology*

in *Ancient India—The Begining*, ed. by D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Firma KLM, Calcutta, 1986.

8. "The Asterisms", in *History of Oriental Astronomy*, IAU colloquium 91, edited by G. Swarup, A.K. Bag, K.S. Shukla, Cambridge, 1987.
9. "Astronomical and Calendrical Evidence in early Indian Inscriptions", *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, 30.1-4 (1988).
10. "Some Studies on Varāhamihira" *IJHS* 26.1 (1991) 71-77.
11. "Three 19th Century Calcutta Astronomers" *IJHS* 30.2-4 (1995) 151-158.
12. "Evolution of Dating System", *IJHS* 31.1 (1996) 1-18.
13. "Science and Technology in Ancient India", ed. by D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Firms KLM, Calcutta, Vol. 3 (1996).
14. *Sūryasiddhānta- The Astronomical Principle of the Text*, The Asiatic Society, Calcutta, July 2001.
15. "Some Studies on Āryabhata", in *Treasures of Ancient Indian Astronomy*.

He also worked on a INSA History of Science Project "Development of Astronomical Studies in Bengal in Company's time" during the year 1992-94. He was instrumental in updating and revising the Book on *History of Astronomy in India* for its second editon (2000) published by the Academy.

Dr. Chakravarty was an unassuming, quiet and soft spoken person, and was an active and enthusiastic researcher. He worked till his end. May his soul rest in peace.

**Shabnam Shukla**

**&**

**S.K. Chatterjee**