



Prof. V. Radhakrishnan condolence messages

Subject Condolences

Date: Fri, 11 Mar 2011 10:19:44 +0530

From: ThinniamRengarajan<[rengan39@gmail.com](mailto:rengan39@gmail.com)>

To: [director@rri.res.in](mailto:director@rri.res.in)

Dear Ravi,

I was very sad to hear about Rad's passing away. His contribution to astrophysics and growth and direction of RRI are well known. He was a strong willed person who always stood for his principles. His death is a great loss to RRI, Indian and international astronomical community and his friends including me. Please convey my heartfelt condolences to his family.

Rengarajan

--

T. N. Rengarajan

Email: [rengan39@gmail.com](mailto:rengan39@gmail.com)

Phone: 91 22 2765 5925

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 12:00:59 +0530

From: Madan Rao <rao.madan@gmail.com>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

CC: Jayashree <jsree.t@gmail.com>

dear ravi

i am in strasbourg and shocked and profoundly saddened to hear this news. please do convey my heartfelt grief to dominique and vivek. i hope Rad didnt have to suffer much at the end and that he went with a song and a smile.

in sorrow

madan

--

Madan Rao

Professor

Raman Research Institute/National Centre for Biological Sciences

Bangalore

Subject: VERY SAD

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 10:35:44 +0400

From: GAURI BI DANUR RAJASEKHARA <rajagbd@gmail.com>

To: director@rri.res.in, krishna@rri.res.in, uday@rri.res.in

CC: gauribidanur rajasekhara <raja\_gbd@yahoo.com>

Dear Sir,

I'm very sorry to hear about the loss of our RAD. My thoughts are with Dominique and Vivek and wish their strength of character and sense of pride will help them through this sad time.

Remembering the wonderful days I spent with him in GBD, RRI and at MRT, with heavy heart I am sending our condolences.

Rajasekhara with MRT Team.

--

GAURI BI DANUR RAJASEKHARA

EXPERT OBSERVER, MAURITIUS RADIO TELESCOPE.

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[raja\\_gbd@yahoo.com](mailto:raja_gbd@yahoo.com), [raja\\_gbd@indiatimes.com](mailto:raja_gbd@indiatimes.com)

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 09:13:27 +0200

From: Roy Booth <rbooth@ska.ac.za>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

I read your mail with great sadness, especially since I missed Rad's 1000 moons celebration last year. He was a very good friend, a great scientist and a person of intellect and fun at the same time. He will be missed by all of us.

Please convey my condolences to Dominique and Vivek.

Regards, Roy

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 02:17:52 -0500 (EST)

From: Abhay Ashtekar <ashtekar@gravity.psu.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Professor Subrahmanyan:

Thank you for the e-mail. I am saddened by this news especially because I could not join you all for his 1000th moon celebration. I am planning a trip to Bangalore in the summer of 2012 and had already made a point to come and see Rad during the trip. But alas, that was not to be!

Would you be so kind as to let me know either e-mail or postal address for Dominique and Vivek?

Many thanks,  
Abhay Ashtekar

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Wed, 2 Mar 2011 23:28:33 -0800

From: Roger Blandford <rdb3@stanford.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

I am so sorry. Rad will be missed by his friends all round the world whose lives were touched by his warm, wise and stimulating personality.

Sadly,  
Roger

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 09:49:35 +0200

From: Bernard Fanaroff <bfanaroff@gmail.com>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>, Prof Roy Booth  
<roy@hartrao.ac.za>

Dear Professor Subrahmanyam

Please convey our sincere condolences to Rad's family and colleagues.  
Many people here in South Africa knew him and very much appreciated  
his contributions.

With best wishes

Bernie Fanaroff  
Director  
SKA South Africa

Subject: Condolences

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 12:28:16 +0400

From: Nalini Heeralall-I ssur <nalini@uom.ac.mu>

To: director@rri.res.in

Dear Ravi,

I got the sad news this morning. I have known Rad with his so remarkable personality since 1988 when I was at RRI. Rad came to Mauritius for the 1st time along with Prof Sastry back in 1987 and there are several anecdotes associated with their stays here, once during a cyclone. Rad was also our very first external examiner for our first batch of BSc Physics graduates in 1992 and as expected not a conventional one.

To-day he is no more, but all these memories remain. His contributions to knowledge will also be remembered around the globe.

I would like to convey my condolences to all of you at RRI who are going to miss him most - and more specially to Dominique, Vivek and his family.

Regards,

Nalini.

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 13:59:44 +0530 (IST)

From: ram srinivasan <rsv\_physics@yahoo.co.in>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Prof. Ravi Subrahmanyam:

I feel very sad to hear about the demise of Prof. Radhakrishnan. Please convey my condolences to his wife. I am down with fever and unable to come to Bangalore to meet her.

Regards

R.Srinivasan

Subject: Re: sad news from RRI

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 09:02:34 +0000

From: Subir Sarkar <s.sarkar1@physics.ox.ac.uk>

To: Katherine Blundell <Katherine.Blundell@astro.ox.ac.uk>

CC: Amanda Cooper-Sarkar <a.cooper-sarkar1@physics.ox.ac.uk>, <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Katherine,

Thanks for letting us know. Very sad news ... but at least he went the way he would have wanted - full of life till the last moment! And he had indeed had a very full and long life with more adventure and excitement than most of us can dream of.

Please would you convey our sincere condolences to Francoise - she must be devastated. I am cc'ing to Ravi.

Subir

Subject: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 09:07:40 -0000

From: Tracie Anderson <Tracie.Anderson@bristol.ac.uk>

To: <director@rri.res.in>

CC: <mon.berry@bristol.ac.uk>

from Michael Berry

Dear Ravi,

Thank you for your kindness in so promptly sending me the news of Rad's death. I do not have contact details for Dominique and Vivek, so may I impose on you to copy the message below and send it to them?

My condolences to with everyone at RRI who will remember Rad with affection and admiration.

With best wishes, Michael

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to Dominique and Vivek from Michael, Monica and Tom Berry  
My dear Dominique and Vivek,

We have learned with great sadness that Rad has just died. There is little that we can say that will diminish your shock and grief. But we want you to know that we are thinking of you, and we too mourn the passing of a fine scientist, an original free spirit, a fountain of life.

With our love, Michael, Monica and Tom  
Tracie

-----  
Tracie Anderson  
Postgraduate & Research Administrator  
H H Wills Physics Laboratory  
Tyndall Avenue  
Bristol, BS8 1TL  
Tel: +44 (0)117 9288735  
Fax: +44 (0)117 9255624

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 20:10:12 +1100

From: Peter Shaver <pjshaver@bigpond.com>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

CC: Peter Shaver <pjshaver@bigpond.com>

Dear Ravi,

The news certainly comes as a shock and great sadness to us. Rad was such a wonderful person, such a wonderful friend. I've already emailed Dominique, but don't want to be too intrusive by phoning just yet. Thank you for letting us know so soon. It must be very hard on all of you. In retrospect the timing of the thousand moons event was such great luck. Who would have known. We heard stories of his sailing exploits since then, and it was clear that he was determined to conquer the seas. An inspiration for all of us.

Our thoughts are with you all.

Peter



Subject: Message to director RRI  
Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 14:27:29 +0400  
From: CS DEAN FOS <csdeanfoss@uom.ac.mu>  
To: director@rri.res.in  
CC: Radhakrishna Somanah <dinesh@uom.ac.mu>

To Director RRI

Dear Prof Subrahmanian,

It is with great sadness that we at the Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius have heard of the passing away of Rad.

He was our first external examiner for our BSc Physics course and we recognize his contribution in the building up of the MRT, specially when he was the director of RRI.

Please convey our sympathy to his wife, Dominique and his son, Vivek.

Prof H Subratty

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*Professor Anwar Hussein SUBRATTY*  
*Personal Chair in Biochemistry &*  
*Dean of Faculty of Science*  
*University of Mauritius*  
*Réduit, Mauritius*  
*Fax: +2304656928*

*Dr Radhakrishna Somanah (Dinesh)*  
*Associate-Professor in Dept of Physics*  
*Faculty of Science*  
*University of Mauritius*  
*Reduit, MAURITIUS*

*Tel: 230 4037484 (Office), 230 7530575 (Cell)*  
*Fax: 230 4656928*

Research website: <http://www.uom.ac.mu/mrt>

Personal website: <http://www.uom.ac.mu/mrt/dinesh.html>

Subject: RE: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 21:58:31 +1100

From: Malcolm Sinclair <malcolmws@bigpond.com>

To: 'Director' <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

This is indeed very sad news. We all have very fond memories of Rad over the years and it was great to spend some time with him last August. As you say, he will be greatly missed by all. Please give my deepest condolences to Dominique and Vivek.

Yours Sincerely.....Mal Sinclair.

Subject: sincerest condolences

Date: 03 Mar 2011 11:00:47 +0000

From: M.J. Rees <mjr36@cam.ac.uk>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

This was indeed sad news -- a real shock as he seemed vibrant and indestructable and we all hoped he had great voyages ahead. Along with many others, I shall cherish the memory of his friendship and hospitality and many events that we shared.

Please extend my condolences to Dominique and Vivek.

Martin Rees

Subject: Fwd: DEEP CONDOLENCES

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 03:15:36 -0800

From: Harsha Rajasekhara <[hitlerharsha@gmail.com](mailto:hitlerharsha@gmail.com)>

To: director@rri.res.in, uday@rri.res.in, krishna@rri.res.in

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Harsha Rajasekhara <[hitlerharsha@gmail.com](mailto:hitlerharsha@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Mar 3, 2011 at 3:09 AM

Subject: Fwd: DEEP CONDOLENCES

To: Pappa <[rajagbd@gmail.com](mailto:rajagbd@gmail.com)>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Harsha Rajasekhara <[hitlerharsha@gmail.com](mailto:hitlerharsha@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Mar 3, 2011 at 1:37 AM

Subject: DEEP CONDOLENCES

To: gauribidanur rajasekhara <[raja\\_gbd@yahoo.com](mailto:raja_gbd@yahoo.com)>

*When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.*

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am deeply saddened to hear about the sudden demise of Prof V.Radhakrishana. I had the honor to know him and had the greatest respect for him.

I know it is a great loss for all of us and to the Fraternity of Science in particular. I had spent some memorable moments in my life watching him flying couple of decades ago, when i was 11 years old during his visit to Gauribidanur Radio Observatory Station and am sure that the steel birds truly miss him.

Please pass on my sincere condolences to Mrs Radhakrishana and other family members.

Sincere Condolences,  
Captain and Mrs Harsha.

Subject: Professor Radhakrishnan

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 11:21:28 +0000

From: Caroline Humphrey <ch10001@hermes.cam.ac.uk>

To: director@rri.res.in

I would like to express my sincere condolences to all at the Institute, and particularly also to Dominique and Vivek, at the passing of Professor Radhakrishnan. I remember so especially Rad's wonderful personality, his creativity, and joie de vivre, which will certainly be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Yours sincerely,  
Caroline Humphrey (Professor)  
University of Cambridge.

Subject: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 16:54:01 +0530 (IST)

From: Gopal Krishna <krishna@ncra.tifr.res.in>

To: director@rri.res.in

Dear Ravi,

I am deeply saddened over Rad's sudden passing away. It is a loss of a uniquely endowed personality and the void is going to remain.

Rad was smart in life and equally so in death. He will be missed not only by those closely known to him but also by many others around.

Please convey my condolences to Dominique and Vivek.

Gopal

NCRA.TIFR

Subject: [Fwd: Re: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan]  
Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 17:03:42 +0530  
From: sujan@iiap.res.in  
Reply-To: sujan@iiap.res.in, sujansengupta@yahoo.com  
To: director@rri.res.in  
CC: rsubrahm@rri.res.in

Dear Prof. Subrahmanyam,  
I am herewith forwarding you the condolence messages from Prof. Frank Shu and Prof. Paul Ho.

Regards,  
Sujan Sengupta

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan  
From: shufrnk5@netscape.net  
Date: Thu, March 3, 2011 4:52 pm  
To: pho@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw  
sujan@iiap.res.in  
iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw  
flo@nrao.edu

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Dear Sujan,

Please let me add my condolences to those expressed by Paul Ho. I have known Rad for many, many years, because even though I am a theorist, I greatly admire radio astronomers for their technical expertise as much as for their accomplishments in observational astronomy. Rad expemplified this dual ideal to the n-th degree, and he added to my awe of him because of his exploits as a sailor and a great statesman of our subject. I will always fondly remember the wonderful talk he gave at the IAA on the superiority in stability of the wide-bottomed Chinese junks compared to the deep-keeled clippers made famous in the West. But as sailboats go, junks are slow and clippers are fast. So Rad explained how the polynsian catamaran was the supreme, by embodying the bast characteristics of both: slimness of frame with yet a wide "baseline." This metaphor for the beauty of radio interferometry will never leave me.

On an ever earlier occasion, I remember giving a talk at an international conference where I rebutted what I thought were unfair criticisms of spiral density-wave theory. The critics wanted to demolish the theory to make room for their own ideas, which I thought were crazy, unphysical, and contrary to the observational facts. History has proven me right on this score, but I remember that Rad came up to me after my talk and gave me some very good advice. He said, "Frank, why do you bother to answer such critics? Your work speaks for itself and you should ignore them." I realized the wisdom of what he was saying, but I did not have the personality really to follow his guidance (except to mellow slightly as I got older). My enemies would be fewer today if I had adhered more closely to the advice of this great statesman of our age. His shining memory will reside forever in those who had the great fortune to cross his world-line.

Best regards,  
Frank Shu

-----Original Message-----

From: Dr. Paul Ho <pho@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw>  
To: sujan@iiap.res.in; iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw  
Sent: Thu, Mar 3, 2011 2:13 am  
Subject: Re: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan

dear sujan, our great regrets to hear of this sad news. indeed, rad visited IAA when fred lo was director i think. rad was influential in many ways. our paths crossed a few times and i was always very impressed by his adventures. we send our best regards to the family and friends of rad.

best, p

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Dr. Sujan K. Sengupta  
Associate Professor  
Indian Institute of Astrophysics (Govt. of India)  
Koramangala 2nd Block  
Bangalore 560 034  
India

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Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 03 Mar 2011 07:26:57 -0500

From: Jacqueline van Gorkom <jvangork@astro.columbia.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

I am very sad to hear this. My thoughts are with you all, and especially with Dominique and Vivek.

Jacqueline

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 18:25:50 +0530

From: ssurya@rri.res.in

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

We are sorry to hear the news. Do pass on our condolences to Dominique and Vivek.

Sumati

Subject: Re: Rad  
Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 08:04:28 -0500 (EST)  
From: Robert Williams <wms@stsci.edu>  
Reply-To: wms@stsci.edu  
To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi--

One regrets so much to receive news like this. Rad was one of those figures who was larger than life. Frankly, it is hard to imagine Indian astronomy and especially the RRI without him. I am so indebted to him for inviting me to visit the RRI five years ago as the Raman Professor. It was a marvelous time in my life.

My wife Elaine and I will write to Dominique separately.

I hope your work there at the RRI and in India is meeting with success and that our paths cross in the not too distant future.

Best.

Bob

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Fri, 04 Mar 2011 01:28:13 +1100

From: John Dickey <John.Dickey@utas.edu.au>

To: Avinash Deshpande <avideshi@gmail.com>, director@rri.res.in

Dear Ravi and Desh,

I'm so sorry to hear the news. "There hath pass'd away a glory from the Earth." - Wordsworth

The last time I saw Rad, at a Penticton meeting in 2001, I told him: "I don't know how I would have wasted my career away if you had not done the pioneering work on 21-cm absorption that you did in the 60's and 70's. But as it is, I was happy to spend my life following you."

Best regards, and sincere sympathy to all,  
jd

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 09:29:35 -0500

From: Jeremiah Ostriker <ostriker@princeton.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

CC: Jeremiah Ostriker <ostriker@princeton.edu>

Dear Ravi,

Thank you for informing me. This is very sad but it is almost good news that there was no suffering at the end. Could you send me the home address of Dominique so that we can send a note of condolence to her?

Thank you,

Sincerely Yours

jpo (Ostriker)

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 08:15:40 -0700

From: George Seielstad <g.seielstad@nserc.und.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Ravi,

The news is shocking, but thank you for sending it. Rad started my scientific career, so I owe him much. I'm glad I was able to join the celebration of his 1000th moon, which you did a beautiful job organizing. Rad seemed in tip-top form at the time. Apparently he still was even on the evening before his death. The world has lost a good person.

George

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 16:25:07 +0100

From: Edward van den Heuvel <ed.van.den.heuvel@gmail.com>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

CC: Ralph Wijers <R.A.M.J.Wijers@uva.nl>, Michiel van der Klis  
<M.B.M.vanderKlis@uva.nl>

Dear Professor Subrahmanyam, Dear Ravi,

We are very sad to hear the news about Professor Radhakrishnan's passing away. With him, world astronomy - and world science at large - loses one of its most creative and most remarkable minds, and we all lose a great friend. My University of Amsterdam loses one of its greatest Doctors Honoris Causa (year 1996).

We wish our Raman Research Institute friends great strength in the coming days in coping with this great loss.

Warmest greetings from staff and students of the Astronomical Institute "Anton Pannekoek" of the University of Amsterdam as well as my warmest personal greetings, on behalf of us all,

Ed van den Heuvel

Subject: Rad  
Date: Fri, 4 Mar 2011 02:44:01 +1100  
From: Bob Sault <rsault@nrao.edu>  
Reply-To: <rsault@nrao.edu>  
Organization: NRAO  
To: <director@rri.res.in>

Ravi,

Rad's passing is a great loss to the radio astronomy community and to his family too I am sure. Please pass on my deepest sympathies.

Best regards  
Bob

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Phone: +1-575-8357339  
Email: rsault@nrao.edu  
Web: <http://www.ph.unimelb.edu.au/~rsault>

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 09:05:27 -0800

From: Marshall Cohen <mhc@astro.caltech.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

CC: Marshall Cohen <mhc@astro.caltech.edu>, Shirley Cohen  
<shirleykcohen@yahoo.com>

Dear Ravi,

Rad's passing leaves a big hole in our universe. He has been a major force in Science and a good friend for 45 years. Shirley and I greatly enjoyed our visit to RRI last Summer, to honor Rad and to celebrate with his family and friends.

With best wishes,  
Marshall

Subject: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 23:24:50 +0530

From: Subramaniam Ananthakrishnan <subra.anan@gmail.com>

To: krishna@rri.res.in

CC: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Krishna,

Kindly pass on my condolence message written below to Dominique.

Regards,

Ananthakrishnan

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Dear Dominique,

It is with great sadness that I heard the news of the sudden demise of Rad today morning. Many of us, old timers, attended the condolence meeting at 4 PM in NCRA.

I and Sudha vividly recall yourself, Rad and Ramaseshans visiting our house in Ooty for an evening tea in 1973. The association has been long and every meeting with him was always so refreshing. Rad was a colossus who rode the global astronomy scene in great style. We will all miss him. However, your grief will be the greatest.

On this very sombre occasion, may I and Sudha offer our heart-felt condolences to you and Vivek and family. May I also offer condolences on behalf of the International Radio Science Union's (URSI) Commission J, which represents the world wide community of radio astronomers.

Best regards,

Ananth

Chair, Commission J, URSI

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Prof.S.Ananthakrishnan, Adjunct Professor & Raja Ramanna Fellow,  
Electronic Science Dept.;  
Chair, Board of Studies in Atmospheric Science  
and Member Academic Council, Pune University,  
Ganeshkhind, Pune 411007, I N D I A.  
((Formerly) Sr.Prof, NCRA-TIFR & Observatory Director, GMRT ).  
Tel:+91 20 2569 9841 (Dept.);+91 20 6609 4598 (home);Cell  
ph:9421081098,  
[Email:subra.anan@gmail.com](mailto:subra.anan@gmail.com); [ananth@ncra.tifr.res.in](mailto:ananth@ncra.tifr.res.in)  
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Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 11:09:17 -0800 (PST)

From: jack welch <welch@astro.berkeley.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi: Thank you for the news about Rad. He was a leader and great friend, and we will all miss him.

Jack

Subject: Rad

Date: Fri, 4 Mar 2011 08:37:43 +1300

From: Anthony, Johnson JP <Johnson.Anthony@bluescopesteel.com>

To: 'director@rri.res.in' <director@rri.res.in>

CC: 'desh@rri.res.in' <desh@rri.res.in>, 'Rosemarie Johnson'

<Rosemarie.Johnson@ird.govt.nz>, 'Josephine Natasha Johnson'

<j.johnson@auckland.ac.nz>, nancy.v.johnson@gmail.com

<nancy.v.johnson@gmail.com>

Dear Ravi,

Bhanu and I learnt that Rad had passed away yesterday early morning. We were deeply shocked and dismayed at the news. We spoke with Vivek and Krishna last night.

I spoke with Rad ten days ago regarding his boat trip to Fiji and we were planning ahead for the trip including arrangements for some of his crew to have a break in NZ in the coming months.

In a strange sort of way we were relieved to know that Rad had passed away with Dominique and Vivek at his side in the hospital.

Our heart-felt condolences to all those who were associated with Rad, especially to those who were closest to him. Personally for Bhanu and me Rad has been, and his spirit from now on will be, our shining light in our lives.

We will all miss him immensely. May his soul rest in peace.

Regards

Johnson, Bhanu, Natasha and Nancy

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 21:41:32 +0200 (EET)

From: John H Seiradakis <jhs@astro.auth.gr>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

I was deeply saddened by the news of Rad's passing away. As you may remember I was invited by Rad to the RRI a few years ago. Later, Rad stayed at my house in Thessaloniki, Greece and we had several discussions about several aspects of pulsar issues. We used to meet in every IAU General Assembly after that. He was a great scientist and a gentleman. Very seldom one meets somebody with Rad's merits.

At least, he left this world without the pain of a long old age. He left us active and with a young mind... An envious way to leave this world, but a great shock and blow for those staying behind. Please convey my sincere condolence and sympathy to Dominique and Vivek.

John

Subject: RE: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 17:01:17 -0500

From: Ken Kellermann <kkellerm@nrao.edu>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Ravi,

This is devastating news. It took me all day to even write back. I think Rad was one of the most remarkable and interesting people I have had the privilege of knowing. I first knew him when I came to Caltech as fresh graduate student and he was a bit intimidating. I suspect I never got over being intimidated by him as I knew whenever we met he was going to ask me some "elementary" physics question, which I would not be able to answer.

Somehow one knew that Rad would go quickly when he went, but I was always afraid it would be at sea, in some far off land, or landing an "aircraft."

I will write to Dominique and Vivek, but it may take a while to arrive. Meanwhile, please tell them both that we are thinking of them.

ken

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 03 Mar 2011 22:08:49 +0000

From: Andy fabian <acf@ast.cam.ac.uk>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi

This is indeed very sad news. I enjoyed talking with Rad over the years, he was a remarkable man. It is good to know that he was active to the end.

with best wishes

Andy

Subject: Passing of Rad

Date: Fri, 04 Mar 2011 09:23:16 +1100

From: DCW <dcw@physics.usyd.edu.au>

To: director@rri.res.in

Dear Ravi,

I am sadden to hear of Rads passing. He will be missed.

Rgds Duncan

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DUNCAN CAMPBELL-WILSON

Manager | Molonglo Radio Observatory

School of Physics | Faculty of Science

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E duncan.campbellwilson@sydney.edu.au | W <http://sydney.edu.au>

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 18:29:30 -0500

From: Kenneth Johnston <ktjohnston1@cox.net>

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi:

Therese and I are very saddened by passing of Rad, We have many fond memories of him. He has enriched our lives and will always be remembered. Thank you for inviting us to Rad's 1000 moon celebration. It was good visiting Rad and seeing him.

Therese and Ken Johnston

Subject: RE: Prof V Radhakrishnan  
Date: Fri, 4 Mar 2011 11:01:52 +1100  
From: <Vicki.Drazenovic@csiro.au>  
To: <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

Please pass on my condolences to Dominique. I remember them both very fondly from their time at Marsfield Cottage.

Best regards,

Vicki Drazenovic  
Leader, Visitors Services Group  
CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science  
Ph: +61 2 9372 4272  
Fax: +61 2 9372 4444  
Mobile: +61 (0)401 676 956

Subject: Re: Rad  
Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 20:12:35 -0500  
From: Murugappan Muthukumar <muthu2346@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: muthu@polysci.umass.edu  
To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

I am very sad to receive this news. Rad has been a charismatic and inspiring person for me. I have no more words to add at this time.

With regards,  
Muthu

Subject: Vale Prof V Radhakrishnan  
Date: Fri, 4 Mar 2011 13:07:32 +1100  
From: <Priscilla.Clayton@csiro.au>  
To: <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi

Please convey my deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of the late Prof Radhakrishnan. All in the radio astronomy community will miss him very much.

Kind regards

Priscilla

Priscilla Clayton | Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder  
(ASKAP) Regional Manager

---

CSIRO, Astronomy and Space Science - Geraldton Office  
20 Gregory Street Geraldton Western Australia PO Box 2102  
GERALDTON WA 6531

**P** 02 9490 5180 or (08) 99568-550

**M** 0457-543-918 | **E** [Priscilla.Clayton@csiro.au](mailto:Priscilla.Clayton@csiro.au)

Visit our website: [www.atnf.csiro.au](http://www.atnf.csiro.au)

Also: [www.ska.gov.au](http://www.ska.gov.au)

Subject: Rad

Date: Fri, 04 Mar 2011 17:57:07 +1100

From: Robert Batchelor <rbatchel@bigpond.com>

To: director@rri.res.in

I received the sad news from Mal Sinclair. He will be sorely missed.  
Please pass on my condolences to Dominique and Vivek.

With best regards,

Bob Batchelor

Subject: Rad

Date: Sat, 5 Mar 2011 10:04:52 +1100 (EST)

From: rdc@aao.gov.au

To: Ravi Subrahmanyam <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi

I just got the very sad news (via Dick Manchester) that Rad died on Thursday. Can you send us any more details? He was someone who had quite a significant influence on our lives, in different ways over many years, although he and I never worked directly together. Fernanda and I have particularly happy memories of our visit to the RRI at Christmas in 1992, and of several visits by Rad to Sydney. Rad's name still often comes up in our daily conversations although it is a few years since we last met: he was someone who changed the way we think about the world.

Please pass on our condolences to Dominique and Vivek, and let them know we are thinking of them.

Russell and Fernanda

Subject: Condolences

Date: Sat, 5 Mar 2011 17:58:49 +0300

From: R.D.D. <rdd@prao.ru>

To: <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

I was disturbed to know the sad news about the death of Professor Venkatraman Radhakrishnan, and I would like to offer you and his family our deepest sympathies in this great loss. His friends and colleagues in Russia have always admired Prof. Radhakrishnan's personality. I hope it will be some consolation in your bereavement to know that those of us who had professional contacts with Prof. V. Radhakrishnan will long cherish his memory.

Sincerely yours,

On behalf of the all Pushchino radioastronomers

Rustam Dagkesamanskii,

Director

Pushchino Radio Astronomy Observatory

Pushchino, Moscow Region,

Russia

Subject: Re: Rad

Date: Sun, 6 Mar 2011 11:21:36 +0100

From: omont@iap.fr

To: Director <director@rri.res.in>

Dear Ravi,

Thank you for sending this mail, although I am still deeply shocked by such a deeply sad news.

I share the infinite sadness of the whole community, RRI , Indian and international, realizing that Rad will never be there again with us.

I specially regret not to have found the way to travel for his festival in late August.

Please, forward my sad regards to everybody at RRI

Alain Omont

Subject: Fw: Prof. Radhakrishnan  
Date: Mon, 7 Mar 2011 19:40:48 -0800 (PST)  
From: Predhiman Kaw <predh@yahoo.com>  
To: director@rri.res.in

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Predhiman Kaw <predh@yahoo.com>  
To: direc@rri.res.in; G. Chandramohan <execsec@ias.ernet.in>  
Sent: Sun, March 6, 2011 11:12:01 PM  
Subject: Re: Prof. Radhakrishnan

Dear Ravi and Shri Chandramohan,

It is indeed with a sense of great personal loss that I have received the news about the passing away of a tall stalwart of Indian Science, namely, Dr V. Radhakrishnan. A man of excellent tastes, bestowed with exemplary integrity and voracious appetite for adventure and gifted with remarkable scientific intuition, Radhakrishnan was a man of many talents. He was full of life and equally irrepressible as a critical scientific colleague or as a self-critical boat designer. I met him last at the recent RRI Council meeting, when he invited me home for a lunch with his lovely wife Dominique. I will always remember him as a dear and affectionate friend, full of scientific curiosity and stories of adventure. On behalf of my colleagues at the Institute and on my own behalf, please accept our heartfelt condolences and convey the same to Dominique and the rest of the family.

Sincerely yours,

P K Kaw  
Director IPR

From: D. Rao <[Raod@umb.edu](mailto:Raod@umb.edu)>  
Date: Fri, Mar 4, 2011 at 9:31 AM  
Subject: RE: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan (Rad) of RRI is no more  
To: Reji Philip <[philipreji@gmail.com](mailto:philipreji@gmail.com)>

Dear Reji:

Very sorry to hear about the sudden demise of Prof. Radhakrishnan. I was flattered to see him at my recent talk in your institution. Though his age was showing up compared to previous years, he looked quite healthy. Actually my first talk at RRI on Stimulated Raman and Brillouin scattering in liquid crystals was in 1975, he was then Director and was an active participant in the discussions. He was very forceful in his viewpoint that spontaneous Raman Scattering itself is a nonlinear phenomenon. He does leave a huge void in the scientific community. Our hearty condolences to his family personal and professional.

D. V. G. L. N. Rao (Gopal Rao)  
Fellow of the American Physical Society  
Distinguished Professor  
Department of Physics  
University of Massachusetts Boston  
100 Morrissey Blvd,  
Boston, MA 02125

Tel: 617-287-6065  
Fax: 617-287-6053  
Email: [raod@umb.edu](mailto:raod@umb.edu)  
Website: <http://www.physics.umb.edu/Staff/raod.htm>

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Subject: greetings

Date: Sat, 12 Mar 2011 22:15:13 +0100

From: Joe Silk <silk@iap.fr>

To: director@rri.res.in

CC: Joe Silk <silk@iap.fr>

dear ravi

i was very sorry to hear the sad news about rad. it is a great loss for india and for the world.

could you send me dominique's email address?

best wishes

joe

Subject: \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* Late Prof. Radhakrishnan  
Date: Fri, 4 Mar 2011 20:39:01 +0530  
From: Govind Swarup <gswarup29@gmail.com>  
To: Rathnasree Nandivada <rathnasree63@yahoo.co.uk>  
CC: Nimisha G Kantharia <ngk@ncra.tifr.res.in>, director@rri.res.in,  
Ganesan Srinivasan <gsrini1942@gmail.com>, rajaram nityanand  
<rajaram@ncra.tifr.res.in>, Dipanjan Mitra  
<dmitra@ncra.tifr.res.in>, uday@rri.res.in, dwaraka@rri.res.in,  
Deshpande A A <desh@rri.res.in>

Dear Rathnasree

I will circulate your email to a few persons in RRI and at NCRA to send to you some material in the form of digital images or video related to the late Prof. Radhakrishnan. He was indeed a remarkable scientist, an amazing perusal of sailing and motor gliding and warm human being.

With regards  
Govind

Posted by:  
"nandivada\_rathnasree" [rathnasree63@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rathnasree63@yahoo.co.uk) [nandivada\\_rathnasree](mailto:nandivada_rathnasree)  
Thu Mar 3, 2011 9:33 pm (PST)

It was with disbelieving shock that I read about the passing away of Prof. Radhakrishnan.

I have been feeling deep remorse since then - because, I have been working towards the starting of a compilation of Oral History archive at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (of which our planetarium is now a part) with interviews of eminent astronomers and astrophysicists, and I wish, I had been able to complete the necessary paper work by now and had obtained Prof. Radhakrishnan's interview for this Oral History archive.

I wish to hold a memorial meeting here at our planetarium - essentially aimed at conveying the inspiration from his life and works to school and college students in Delhi. I am working towards creating a small full dome presentation from his work - and I wish to request everyone to direct me

to sources from where some material in the form of digital images or video related to Prof. Radhakrishnan may be available, to be adapted in the full dome presentation.

Rathnasree

--

Govind Swarup FRS

Former Centre Director, National Centre for Radio Astrophysics, and  
Former Project Director, GMRT, Pune 411007.

Phone +91 20 25851630 (R),

cell +918975782096

+91 20 25719277 (O), cell 9890785850

From: [sujan@iiap.res.in](mailto:sujan@iiap.res.in)  
Date: 3 March 2011 4:00:39 PM GMT+05:30  
To: [rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)  
Subject: [Fwd: Re: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan]  
Reply-To: [sujan@iiap.res.in](mailto:sujan@iiap.res.in), [sujansengupta@yahoo.com](mailto:sujansengupta@yahoo.com)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan  
From: "Dr. Paul Ho" <[pho@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:pho@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw)>  
Date: Thu, March 3, 2011 3:43 pm  
To: [sujan@iiap.res.in](mailto:sujan@iiap.res.in)  
[iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw)  
Cc: [pho@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:pho@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw)

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dear sujan, our great regrets to hear of this sad news. indeed, rad visited IAA when fred lo was director i think. rad was influential in many ways. our paths crossed a few times and i was always very impressed by his adventures. we send our best regards to the family and friends of rad.

best, p

From: [sujan@iiap.res.in](mailto:sujan@iiap.res.in)  
To: [iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw)  
Sent: Thu, 3 Mar 2011 12:24:49 +0530  
Subject: Prof. V. Radhakrishnan

Dear ASI AA Colleagues,

Prof. V. Radhakrishnan, a renowned radio astronomer and pulsar expert has passed away today at 5:30 am. He was the director of Raman Research Institute at Bangalore.

Incidentally, once Chi told me that Rad was the first Indian visitor to ASI AA. Most probably he visited I AA when Chi was the director.

=====  
Dr. Sujan K. Sengupta  
Associate Professor  
Indian Institute of Astrophysics (Govt. of India)  
Koramangala 2nd Block  
Bangalore 560 034  
India

-----  
Tel : 91 80 2553 0672-0676 (Extn 323)  
Fax : 91 80 2553 4043  
Mobile: 91 9845859077  
URL : <http://www.iiap.res.in/personnel/sujan>

---

I aa mailing list  
[iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:iaa@asiaa.sinica.edu.tw)

----- End of Original Message -----

From: Jayadev Rajagopal <[jayadev.rajagopal@gmail.com](mailto:jayadev.rajagopal@gmail.com)>

Date: 3 March 2011 11:41:21 PM GMT+05:30

To: [rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)

Subject: Rad

Dear Ravi,

I am at a loss to convey my sadness and grief. Rad was not formally involved with my thesis, but above anyone else he became a source of inspiration and guidance, as he was for so many. Being so far away makes it very tough. I do not know much about your relationship; I can only imagine your loss. My thoughts to Lakshmi as well.

Jayadev

P.S I would like to eventually write Dominique if possible; could you let me know her postal address?

From: Dick Hunstead <[rwh@physics.usyd.edu.au](mailto:rwh@physics.usyd.edu.au)>  
Date: 4 March 2011 1:24:24 AM GMT+05:30  
To: Ravi Subrahmanyam <[rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)>, Lakshmi Saripalli  
<[lsaripal@rri.res.in](mailto:lsaripal@rri.res.in)>  
Cc: Penny Hunstead <[penny\\_hunstead@bigpond.com](mailto:penny_hunstead@bigpond.com)>  
Subject: Rad

Dear Ravi and Lakshmi,

Penny and I were shocked and greatly saddened to hear of Rad's sudden passing. For me he was a giant --- someone who combined a love of life, company and good times with a deep insight into the human condition and astronomy. We are all going to miss him, and our thoughts are very much with Dominique and Vivek.

With best regards,  
Dick and Penny.

P.S. Penny is writing separately to Dominique.

From: Anne Green <[agreen@physics.usyd.edu.au](mailto:agreen@physics.usyd.edu.au)>  
Date: 4 March 2011 3:11:21 AM GMT+05:30  
To: Ravi Subrahmanyam <[rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)>  
Cc: [lsaripal@rri.res.in](mailto:lsaripal@rri.res.in), Anne Green <[agreen@physics.usyd.edu.au](mailto:agreen@physics.usyd.edu.au)>  
Subject: Sad news about Rad

Dear Ravi & Lakshmi,

I heard yesterday the very sad news about Rad. He was such a passionate vivacious person it is hard to believe he is no longer here. I seem to have lost Dominique's email address so please pass on to her my deepest sympathy and good wishes. To Vivek also. A loss to us all, but his legacy will be long lasting. Rad has a very special place in my heart - my first paper (as junior author) was published with Rad, Miller Goss and Jim Caswell.

Best regards, Anne

ANNE GREEN | Professor of Astrophysics  
Sydney Institute for Astronomy | School of Physics | Faculty of Science

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY  
Room 564, School of Physics A29  
The University of Sydney | NSW 2006 | Australia  
T +61 2 9351 2727      F +61 2 9351 7726  
E [anne.green@sydney.edu.au](mailto:anne.green@sydney.edu.au)  
W <http://sydney.edu.au/science/physics>

From: [krishna@rri.res.in](mailto:krishna@rri.res.in)  
Date: 4 March 2011 1:04:02 PM GMT+05:30  
To: [schilizzi@skatelescope.org](mailto:schilizzi@skatelescope.org)  
Cc: [rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)  
Subject: Rad's sad passing away - your condolence message

Dear Prof. Schilizzi:

This email is to acknowledge your condolence message sent through Prof. Ananthakrishnan of NCRA and to say it is being passed on to Dominique - whose email and mailing addresses are:

[zaza1940@gmail.com](mailto:zaza1940@gmail.com) Phone: +91 80 23611823

Mrs. F.Dominique Radhakrishnan  
Raman Research Institute  
C V Raman Avenue  
Sadashivanagar  
Bangalore 560 080, India

Regards,

Krishnama Raju  
Administrative Officer  
Raman Research Institute

From: Lister Staveley-Smith <[Lister.Staveley-Smith@icrar.org](mailto:Lister.Staveley-Smith@icrar.org)>  
Date: 4 March 2011 3:14:25 PM GMT+05:30  
To: Ravi Subramanyan <[rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)>  
Cc: Lister Staveley-Smith <[Lister.Staveley-Smith@icrar.org](mailto:Lister.Staveley-Smith@icrar.org)>, [lsaripal@rri.res.in](mailto:lsaripal@rri.res.in)  
Subject: Rad

Dear Ravi

Sorry to hear about Rad. Please pass on my condolences to Dominique.  
It's so soon after I had dinner with them both too. Desh is shattered.

Regards  
Lister

From: Richard Schilizzi <[schilizzi@skatelescope.org](mailto:schilizzi@skatelescope.org)>  
Date: 4 March 2011 3:25:14 PM GMT+05:30  
To: [krishna@rri.res.in](mailto:krishna@rri.res.in)  
Cc: [rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in), schilizzi <[schilizzi@skatelescope.org](mailto:schilizzi@skatelescope.org)>  
Subject: Re: Rad's sad passing away - your condolence message

Dear Dr Raju,  
Thank you very much for passing my message on to Dominique, and for her email and phone information. Much appreciated. You must all be very sad in Bangalore.  
Best wishes,  
Richard

\*\*\*\*\*

Prof. R. T. Schilizzi  
Director  
Square Kilometre Array Program Development Office  
c/- Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics  
Alan Turing Building  
The University of Manchester  
Manchester M13 9PL  
UK

tel: +44 161 2754055 (office)  
tel: +44 750 0127068 (mobile)  
email: [schilizzi@skatelescope.org](mailto:schilizzi@skatelescope.org)  
internet: [www.skatelescope.org](http://www.skatelescope.org)

From: [owner-astro@atnf.csiro.au](mailto:owner-astro@atnf.csiro.au) [<mailto:owner-astro@atnf.csiro.au>] On  
Behalf Of [Dick.Manchester@CSIRO.AU](mailto:Dick.Manchester@CSIRO.AU)  
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 8:57 PM  
To: ATNF Astro Majordomo List  
Subject: FW: Prof V Radhakrishnan

Rad was a pioneer of interferometry and pulsar research at CSIRO Radiophysics in the 1960s and 1970s. His most highly cited paper is on the famous Magnetic Pole Model (often called the Rotating Vector Model) for pulsar beaming, Radhakrishnan & Cooke, Astrophysical Letters, (1969), based on polarisation measurements of the Vela pulsar taken at Parkes.

Dick

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Rad  
From: "Director" [director@rri.res.in](mailto:director@rri.res.in)  
Date: Thu, March 3, 2011 10:07 am

Dear Friends,

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing away of Rad. The end came early this morning. Rad was in his usual spirits last evening and was at a conference dinner at the Raman Institute. His presence and personality will be missed by all of us here at the institute. Our thoughts are with Dominique and Vivek at this time.

With regards,  
Ravi

From: Ram Nidumolu <[ram@innovastrat.com](mailto:ram@innovastrat.com)>  
Date: 9 March 2011 12:10:12 AM GMT+05:30  
To: [rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in), anand nidumolu <[anidumolu\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:anidumolu_98@yahoo.com)>, Sakuntala Bhrugubanda <[sakuntala.bhrugubanda@customs.gov.au](mailto:sakuntala.bhrugubanda@customs.gov.au)>  
Subject: A tribute to Rad

Dear Ravi:

I heard from friends and colleagues about Rad's passing last week. I remember well the great presence he was in our lives as we were growing up in Bangalore and the tremendous respect and affection that my dad had for him. I also remember well the many parties we had at our house, where Rad would eat with his hands and relish the biriyani and other food that my mom made.

I've written the enclosed tribute to his memory, based on my own limited and partial perspective. Please feel free to use this tribute in any way you think will be helpful.

Please convey my heartfelt condolences to Dominique and Vivek and to all the RRI staff who knew him well. If you have the time, I would appreciate if you could send me Vivek's or Dominique's email address or other contact information.

With warm regards,

Rama

--

Ram Nidumolu, PhD | Founder and CEO  
[InnovaStrat | Low Carbon Enterprise Initiative | 831-426-5451](#)

From: Lyn & Tony <[yachtambrosia@gmail.com](mailto:yachtambrosia@gmail.com)>

Date: Sat, Mar 12, 2011 at 1:21 PM

Subject: Rad

To: [avideshi@gmail.com](mailto:avideshi@gmail.com)

Ravi,

Thank you for your email in relation to the passing of Rad.

We have been in touch with Dominique and passed on our sympathies to her for the loss. Rad was a true friend. Both Lyn and I are very sad at his passing.

I know Rad has his sailing boat in Puteri Marina in Malaysia. If there is anything we can in relation to selling or return of Eldemer to India please let us know.

--

Lyn & Tony

S/V Ambrosia

From: "Namir E Kassim" <[namir.kassim@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:namir.kassim@nrl.navy.mil)>  
Date: 14 March 2011 9:52:50 PM GMT+05:30  
To: "'Dwarakanath K.S.'" <[dwaraka@rri.res.in](mailto:dwaraka@rri.res.in)>, <[rsubrahm@rri.res.in](mailto:rsubrahm@rri.res.in)>  
Cc: <[ra-nrl@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:ra-nrl@nrl.navy.mil)>, "'Lazio, Joseph \ (335C\)" <[Joseph.Lazio@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Joseph.Lazio@jpl.nasa.gov)>, "'erickson'" <[Bill.Erickson@utas.edu.au](mailto:Bill.Erickson@utas.edu.au)>, "'Hilary Cane'" <[Hilary.Cane@utas.edu.au](mailto:Hilary.Cane@utas.edu.au)>  
Subject: Rad  
Reply-To: <[namir.kassim@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:namir.kassim@nrl.navy.mil)>

Dear Ravi, Dwaraka -

We have been late to hear the very sad news about Rad. I am deeply sorry, and extend my condolences to his family, close friends, and the larger RRI and Indian astronomical family. It is truly the passing of a legend in our field, and my thoughts are filled with many fond memories of good times and events that were inspired by this great man.

Very sincerely,

Namir (and on behalf of the NRL radio astronomy group)

# आर्यभट्ट प्रेक्षण विज्ञान शोध संस्थान

ARIES

## ARYABHATTA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF OBSERVATIONAL SCIENCES

(An Autonomous Institution of the DST, Govt. of India)

Prof. Ram Sagar, FNASc, FASc.  
Director

AO/9015/RRI  
Date: 4 March 2011

To  
Prof. Ravi Subrahmanyam,  
Director  
Raman Research Institute  
C. V. Raman Avenue,  
Sadashivanagar,  
Bangalore - 560 080

Dear Sir,

We all at ARIES are deeply shocked by the sad news of demise of Prof. V. Radhakrishnan on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2011. We convey our condolence to the bereaved family and pray God that his soul may rest in peace.

It is requested to handover the enclosed message of condolence to the bereaved family of Late Prof. V. Radhakrishnan.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Ram Sagar)

Encl: A/A

---

Mailing address : ARIES, Manora Peak, Nainital, 263129 Uttarakhand, India  
Location : At the distance of 3.5 Km approach road bifurcating NH - 87 before 6.0 Km to Nainital  
Phone No. : (0091-05942) 235136, 232655, 233727, 233734, 233735  
Fax No. : (0091-05942) 233439  
Telegram : ASTRONOMY *res*  
E-mail : *sagar@aries.ernet.in*

# आर्यभट्ट प्रेक्षण विज्ञान शोध संस्थान

ARIES

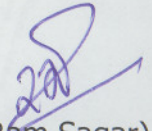
ARYABHATTA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF OBSERVATIONAL SCIENCES  
(An Autonomous Institution of the DST, Govt. of India)

Prof. Ram Sagar, FNASc, FASc.  
Director

## MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

I, the undersigned, along with all members of staff of ARIES, Nainital feel heavy at heart at the sad news of demise of Prof V Radhakrishnan on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2011. Though the great soul has departed for heavenly abode as the Almighty might have desired so, he has left behind a vast scientific fraternity who will always remember him for his unforgettable works and noted service in the field of science. The vacuum created with his passing away can hardly be filled up.

We pray God that the departed soul may rest in peace in His Home and the bereaved family be bestowed with courage and strength to bear with such an irreparable loss.

  
(Ram Sagar)  
Director

---

Mailing address : ARIES, Manora Peak, Nainital, 263129 Uttarakhand, India  
Location : At the distance of 3.5 Km approach road bifurcating NH - 87 before 6.0 Km to Nainital  
Phone No. : (0091-05942) 235136, 232655, 233727, 233734, 233735  
Fax No. : (0091-05942) 233439  
Telegram : ASTRONOMY  
E-mail : [sagar@aries.ernet.in](mailto:sagar@aries.ernet.in)



# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ASTROPHYSICS

Sarjapur Road, Koramangala II Block, Bangalore 560034

*Professor Siraj Hasan*  
D.Phil. (Oxon)  
Director

Phone: 080 2553 0583  
Fax: 080 2553 4019  
Email: [diriaa@iiap.res.in](mailto:diriaa@iiap.res.in)  
[www.iiap.res.in](http://www.iiap.res.in)

#513  
March 7, 2011

Professor Ravi Subrahmanyam  
Director  
Raman Research Institute  
C.V.Raman Avenue  
Bangalore 560080

Dear Ravi

When I landed in Delhi on the morning of 3<sup>rd</sup> March, I was extremely shocked to learn the unexpected passing away of Professor Radhakrishnan. Rad's association with the Institute was for more than four decades; he was a Member of our Governing Council for more than twenty years and later Honorary Fellow for a decade. His multifaceted contributions to IIA for its growth are phenomenal. He was a source of strength, great inspiration and motivation to three generation of scientists and engineers. He was a towering personality with international stature; his commitment to science, generosity in sharing his knowledge with others, perseverance for perfection of astronomical and other instruments for sky and sea navigation, high value system, frank and fearless expression of views on important matters were some of his outstanding qualities.

We had a condolence meeting in the Institute today and recalled Rad's various outstanding contributions. I am enclosing herewith a resolution passed in today's meeting and express our deep condolences to you and your colleagues at RRI.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely

Siraj Hasan

## CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

The Indian Institute of Astrophysics expresses its deep sense of sorrow at the sudden passing away of Professor V. Radhakrishnan, former Director of the Raman Research Institute and eminent astrophysicist. Professor Radhakrishnan, 'Rad' to most of his colleagues and friends, made lasting contributions to Radio Astronomy, and to our knowledge and physical understanding of interstellar medium, polarized radiation from radio sources, pulsars and supernova remnants. He also played a key role in the development of astronomical facilities and inspired generations of physicists and astronomers in the country.

'Rad' was a Member of the Governing Council of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics for more than 20 years. The Raman Research Institute, under his Directorship, helped IIA carry out its activities from the campus of the RRI during its early years 1972-74 in Bangalore. The two Institutions collaborated to set up the Gauribidanur Radio Observatory in 1976. As an 'Honorary Fellow' of the IIA 'Rad' continued to provide advice and encouragement to the Institute and its research programmes. In his death we have lost a towering figure in Indian science, a truly versatile astronomer and a person with deep insights and courage.

Members of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics express their deep sympathies and heart-felt condolences to Mrs Dominique Radhakrishnan, Mr Vivek Radhakrishnan and bereaved members of the family, the Director and colleagues of the Raman Research Institute at the sudden demise of 'Rad'.

## Bon Voyage, Rad

Perhaps it was his last concession to convention that Rad was on shore and not on a boat sailing the wide-open ocean when the end came. In the last years of his life, he had poured his imagination and energy into one last quest, seeking once again to sail the world to fulfill a childhood dream. It had seemed to me that if and when the news came one day, it would be of Rad lost in a storm out at sea.

My last meeting with him was four years ago at the Raman Research Institute (RRI) where he gave a tour of the boat he had designed himself. I had felt once again the passion and the excitement that radiated around him in every conversation. I thought back then to another conversation more than thirty years ago, when he was in his middle-age and I was in my teens. He had been talking of the extraordinary efficiency of an albatross as it worked with sun-driven wind and the earth's gravity to fly effortlessly over long distances at sea. He had asked us, a small gaggle of awed youth from RRI quarters, to model the forces that propelled the albatross and allowed it to gather speed even as it rose in the air. Now as I spoke with him three decades later on the deck of his half-built boat, I had become the middle-aged man and he was the fearless teenager, bursting with excitement at another adventure. His energy and enthusiasm came from a place beyond time and ordinary life.

Even as teenagers, we who were his colleagues' children could easily relate to how he sought to separate himself from his illustrious father's long shadow. We would pass around tidbits of how he had been a cab driver in the streets of London, sailed on his own from England to Australia when he was young, shown up unannounced at the doorstep of a great research institution in Europe, married outside caste, community and even nationality, knew how to fly his own plane, and had done many other things we could only dream of. He was the first person we turned to when we raised funds to purchase firecrackers to celebrate Diwali at RRI quarters. At parties where our families gathered together, we would try to be near him, so that we could hear the great stories and the hearty laugh he always had. Most of all, we could call him "Rad" to his face, a luxury that was simultaneously exhilarating and confusing, since all other male colleagues of our parents had the conventional Indian suffix of "uncle". He defied all conventions and thereby became the stuff of hero-worship to all of us who grew up in his presence. If Man is the measure of all things, there was nothing to measure and contain this man.

Some years after he had retired from his directorship of RRI, we had got in touch to discuss a project he was considering. He wanted to build a boat that would measure water conditions upstream on the Brahmaputra as it made its way to the Bay of Bengal. He was exploring some interesting ways to collect data that could be used to predict the great river's flooding. The project represented the essence of Rad's daring ideas -- a deep problem addressed in ways that played to his passions and strengths and also had great impact. If successful, it could significantly reduce the vast losses to lives and property downstream that had recurred through the millennia. And it was only one of the many unique ideas that Rad pursued all his life with passion and determination.

It is not my place to determine where Rad stands in the pantheon of India's scientific giants of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Such a pantheon would surely have his father, India's first Nobel laureate in science, at the top. But it seems to me that he belongs to an entirely different lineage whose members steered their own destinies in unique ways. It was only apt that a workshop in 2010 to celebrate his life was called "Radicals in Nature" and sought to address the question, "How do radical ideas come to be?" The description of his work during this workshop suggests his own scientific ancestry. It would include Ramanujan, the self-made mathematical genius, as well as S.N. Bose, the great scientist who worked

with Einstein in the 1920s and had many interests and talents outside of physics. If self-made originality is a precondition for entry into this radical lineage, then Rad would surely pass with flying colors.

Now as we recall his extraordinary life and his last voyage, I am reminded of Tennyson's Ulysses as he gathered his energies and his friends for one last journey on the dark, broad seas. Like Ulysses, Rad's way of living was "to follow knowledge like a sinking star, beyond the utmost bound of human thought". But perhaps in his young heart and his originality there is another partial analogy, this one from the Mahabharata. He was the Ekalavya of his generation, a youth who developed his skills on his own. But it is our great good fortune that unlike Ekalavya, this lion-maned force of nature who forged his own path did not sacrifice his sparkling uniqueness at convention's altar. Bon voyage, Rad.