

# J. C. Bhattacharyya (1930 – 2012)



J.C.Bhattacharyya joined Astrophysical Observatory, Kodaikanal in 1964 as Meteorologist. He was the Assistant Director of the Observatory from 1966 until 1972. He took over as Director of IIA in 1983 after the demise of Prof.M.K.V. Bappu in 1982 and continued until his superannuation in Aug.1990. He is well known for his discoveries of the atmosphere of Jupiter's satellite Ganymede and of the ring system around Uranus. He was instrumental in initiating the project on identifying near-earth asteroids, and one of these asteroids is named as "Bhattacharyya" after his name. Under his supervision and overall direction that the 2.3 metre Vainu Bappu Telescope project was successfully completed at Kavalur. The Joint Astronomy Programme of the Indian Institute of Science involving several astronomy institutions in India was initiated during his tenure. After his superannuation he was associated with IIA as a Member of the Governing Council from 1997-2007.