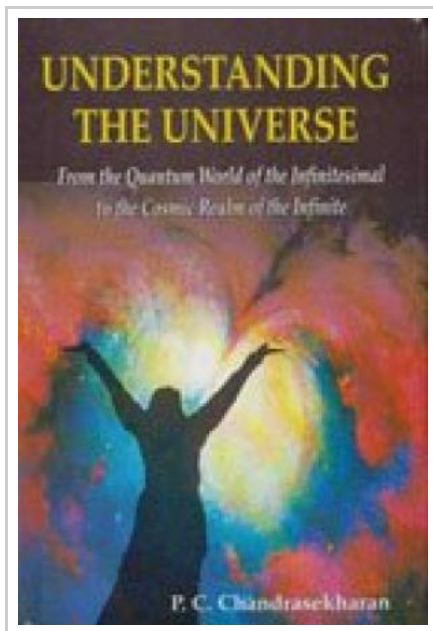




Understanding the Universe: From the Quantum World of the Infinitesimal to the Cosmic Realm of the Infinite

By P.C. Chandrasekharan

Global Vision Publishing House, New Delhi, India. Hardcover.

Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New.

Understanding the Universe, offers a readable, not overly technical but accurate account of cosmic evolution. Mainly intended for the non-specialist, the book attempts to unravel, some of the deepest secrets of nature from the quantum world of the infinitesimal to the cosmic realm of the infinite. In addition to its science content, the book also addresses some of the deep philosophical conundrums associated with the very existence of life in the universe. It is compulsory reading for all those who are propelled by sheer intellectual curiosity to know more about the wonderful world we live in. Contents Acknowledgements (ix) Preface (xi) 1. Essentials of Cosmology 1 2. The Cosmic Evolution: An Overview 13 3. The Universe Inside the Atom 37 4. Fundamental Forces of Nature 51 5. Aftermath of the Big Bang 67 6. Galactic Formations - Birth and Death of Stars 81 7. White Dwarfs, Neutron Stars and Black Holes 103 8. Dark Matter and Dark Energy 119 9. Our Planet Earth and its Neighbours 135 10. Unification of the Forces of Nature 151 11. Observational Cosmology 169 12. Cosmic Creation ? Some Philosophical...



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