

## This Book

Every year, several millions of kilograms of material of varied size range from sub millimeter to meters, falls from space on the Earth. These extra-ordinary celestial rocks provide clues to the understanding of heavenly bodies such as Moon, Mars and asteroids where they originated. The meteorites have provided invaluable information about the origin of elements starting from Big Bang to their synthesis within stars and by cosmic rays as also about the origin of planets, their evolution with time and cosmic rays. The study of these rocks has opened up the wonderful world of interaction of radiation and matter in space.

This book summarizes the scientific information that can be gleaned from meteorites; about the origin of the solar system, origin of life, evolution of Earth and Planets and destruction of life in a simple language. This book is to demonstrate the invaluable scientific value of meteorites and emphasises that no effort should be spared in collecting and preserving these priceless rocks.



**Prof. Narendra Bhandari**

The book distills over five decades of experience of Professor Narendra Bhandari, who specializes in scientific studies of Meteorites and has made pioneering contribution to Planetary sciences. He has collected over a dozen freshly fallen meteorites and has worked on nearly a thousand meteorites and on rocks of the Moon. He worked at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, the University of California, San Diego, USA and the Physical Research Laboratory Ahmedabad.

Professor Bhandari was awarded the Vikram Sarabhai award in Planetary and Space sciences, Special Certificate of Recognition by NASA, USA for his research on Moon samples, the National Mineral Award by Government of India, for his work on the catastrophic mass extinction on Earth and most importantly, the Outstanding Achievement Award of ISRO for his pioneering contributions to Indian Space program including conceptualizing the Indian Mission to Moon. He was also honored with the Marwar Ratna award for his contributions to science.

Professor Bhandari is a Fellow of all the Indian Academies of Sciences and authored a book "The Mysterious Moon and India's Chandrayaan Mission available in English, Hindi, Gujarati and Marathi.



Printed by: mail@suryaoffset.com

**Falling Stones and Secrets of the Universe - Narendra Bhandari**  
**GUJARAT SCIENCE ACADEMY**

# Falling Stones

## and Secrets of the Universe

**Narendra Bhandari**



॥ विज्ञानसारथिर्जयति ॥

**GUJARAT SCIENCE ACADEMY**