# Sun revolves around the Earth

The New Theory Is a Challenge to Every Scientist All Over The World

K. C. Paul

2018

Editor

Dr. Dilip K. Som

# **Contents**

Editor's Note	5
About Kartick Chandra Paul	8
Paul's Predictions and Messages	10
Paul's Model can Explain a Few	11
One of Mr. Paul's Experiments	13
Paul's Hope	14
Paul Educated Himself in his Own Way	15
A documentary on Mr. Paul	23
Media Coverage	25
Media Exposure	25
Communication with Organizations	43
National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Florida	43
National Aeronautics And Space Administration, Taxas	44
National Aeronautics And Space Administration, Texas	45
ISKCON-Calcutta	46
Patrice Riemens, Amsterdam	46
Communication with Individuals	48
Mark Taylor,Australia	48
Nalcolm R Green Friedrich, Germany	48
Mirza Abbas Hussain	49
Roop Krishen Kaw	49
S. G. Mukheriee	50
Timir Baran Mukherjee	50
Annendix 1	55

## **Editor's Note**

A few pages from the booklets what Mr. Paul had been distributing to people on the streets, in the buses and every opportunity he got since 1974 either free or for a small token money which never recovered his cost.

You will notice that it is impossible to decipher what he tries to communicate clearly. To save the cost to make the booklets, he copied and pasted segments of newspaper articles and communication he had with people and organizations in a complete haphazard way.

To save space in those little booklets, he would often cut each line from a printed column in the newspaper, put 2 or 3 and sometime a fraction of a line in one line of his booklet. You can clear see the razor marked lines around those segments.

He printed the booklets both in English and Bengali. Bengali happens to be Mr. Paul's mother tongue and it is spoken in Kolkata area where he belongs.

Paul has used up around 400 kg of white paint and tar paint and his printing costs have crossed Rs. 1 Lakh. Besides, he is still churning out more books and pamphlets, each subtitled "Printed, Published and Discovered by K. C. Paul (not hypothesis).

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## ??? Need to find the right spots...

Paul syas the first please be elaborated and spelling of names in content may please be corrected. Resubmit only after the necessary correction are done." Paul has often faced tricky situations because of his campaign. "Once, I was selling leaflets in Sealdah where a science professor with a bunch of rogues came up to me and started abusing me and my theory. I was not intimidated and made them chase me to the nearest police station and then I shouted for help." sayes Paul. People from the science fraternity of the city, Paul claims, have been exceptionally hostile to him. "The professors and authorities of the Birla technological museum have barred me from distributing pamphlets. How can people in the field of science be so narrowminder?"

Jesuit astronomer Ricoili, Philip Melachthon; Professor at the University of Wittenbery proved that the heavenly bodies go round in circles while the Earth stand still in the middle. Sun revolving round the Earth, just as Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8.

Heavenly illusions Form Lalika Padgaonkar Paris, Jan. 24: The geocentric theory is not entrirely a thing of the past. A recent survey has revealed that one out of every four Frenchment believes—in 1986—that the sun moves around earth and earth is at the centre of the solar system.

It most of those who persist in this belief are workers and surprising is that he belief is farmers, the opinion seems also to be held by office goers most widely held by the young—those under 35.

Four hundered years ago, before Born in a remote village, Copernicus, schoolboys were not as Anulla, in the Howrah distrct vell-informed. Nor were their elders. to

There was a flourishing school of astromy at Cracow though the subject was still taught Writo for from the medieval free copy point of the view, just as, Fig. 5. That is the movements of the heavenly bodie wee still explained by reference to system of physics.

## **About Kartick Chandra Paul**

Kartick chandra Paul (K. C. Paul) was born in 1942 in Anullya, Amta, Howrah, West Bengal, India. He completed grade VIII in high school. He joined the Indian Army as a *Jawan* during the Sino-Indian war of 1962. He was in the Rajput regiment and eventually became a paratrooper. When he was in Fatehgarh, Udaipur. ??? He came upon a telescope and started to look into the sky at night with the new toy. He spent many sleepless nights observing the planets and the Sun. He became very much interested in astronomy. He started reading about Copernicus theory of Cosmology along with the history of Cosmology going back 500 BC. He started conducting his own experiments and finally in1974 ??? came to the conclusion:

#### Sun revolves around the Earth once in a year

That is when he started inviting the wrath of the authorities and people around him. An interview with a Hindi newspaper about his theory cost him his job in the army.

He came back home in Howrah, a city next to Kolkata in ???. Without the credentials required to take part in scientific forums, Paul like all true Kolkatans took the fight to the streets. Any visitor to Kolkata will easily identify it as a city full of graffiti, most of which is done by political parties who have in the past ignored court orders to paint their messages on walls. Paul started to write the slogan "Sun revolves around the Earth once in a year- K. C. Paul every possible wall or light-posts you managed to have access.

Paul has been a lone insistent voice that has expressed itself wherever it could - the base of a light post, a portion of a wall for decades starting 1974. Mostly using capital letters in black against a white washed background, Paul has told the world what he believed. If he more space to write, we would also write:

#### All scientists all over the world are fools

In some place, if space is admitted, he would also put his address and his mobile phone number (after he got his first mobile phone in ???).

Address: ???

Phone: ???

# **Paul's Predictions and Messages**

- The Sun goes around the Earth once in a year in 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes and 46 seconds.
- All scientists are fool about real Cosmology all over the world.
- The mass of the Earth is greater than the Sun. The Earth will not be destroyed on 21st or 23rd December, 2012.

Editor's notes

Mr. Paul comes to all his conclusions (beliefs) without any formal scientific reasoning.

Is it pretty similar to the belief system you will notice in the field of religion.

- An unmanned spacecraft will take 22 months for a full journey (i.e. go & return) to Mars from the earth according to my (K. C. Paul) new theory, but according to wrong Copernican theory, it will take 24 months.
- I think that the Earth is a star and the sun is a planet because the earth is stationary but the Sun moves round the earth once in a year. The Black hole and the Big Bang theories are wrong.
- We will never find life on Mars. Mars has two motions rotation and revolution, while the earth has only one - rotation. Life can grow on earth but not on Mars.

# Paul's Model can Explain a Few

Mr. Paul's model of Sun revolves around the Earth can explain number of phenomena like

- Days and Nights in a 24 hour day on Earth
- Change of seasons Summer and Winter during the year
- Solar and lunar eclipses

**Days And Nights: ???** 

The Seasons: We also see that sometimes days are longer than nights and sometimes nights are longer than days, and on some days and night are equal.

Editor's notes

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Moreover, the Sun does not always rise exactly in the East and sets exactly in the west on the Equator, but form March 21st and September 23rd it rises exactly in the same direction. On March 22nd to September 22nd it rise a little North of the East and sets a little North of the West and from September 24th to March 20th it rises a little South of the East and sets a little South of the West. This show that the Sun moves around the Earth once in a year from the West to the East 21st March there is spring on the northern hemisphere and autumn on the southern hemisphere 21st June there is summer on the northern hemisphere 21st and winter on the southern hemisphere. 23rd September there is Autumn on the northern hemisphere and Spring on the southern hemisphere. 22nd December there is summer on the southern hemisphere and Winter on the northern hemisphere as shown in Figs. 19, 20, 21 and 22.

**Solar Eclipse:** It can occur only at the time the moon, that is, when the Moon is between Saturn Earth and the Sun cuts off light to cause an eclipse the Sun. The moon when comes in between the Earth and the Sun

Fig. 40

**Lunar Eclipse**: When the Sun comes opposite of the Moon (when the Earth is in between the Sun and the moon), that, is at full Moon, the Earth's shadow falling on the Moon, results in an eclipse of the Moons

Fig. 41

# One of Mr. Paul's Experiments

Mr. people urges people to carry out a simple experiment to confirm his theory. "Take iron pipes of 75 cm each. Attach one to the bar of a window facing the sun, another facing the morning star and the other towards the evening star. Look through the pipe facing the sun each day at ??? earth rotation time. You will find that after 15 days the sun is 15 degrees away from its original position while the morning and evening stars remain steady in their places. Thus, he establishes his theory that the sun moves round the earth. He, however, has 24 dreamt other syllogisms to support his theory.

K. C. Paul's New Cosmology also accounts for aberration of starlight due to Earth's orbital velocity, or parallax & the positions of nearby stars as the Earth moves from one side of the Sun to the other.

# Paul's Hope

# Paul Educated Himself in his Own Way

Michelson-Morley Experiment: The earth, while it revolves around the sun, must move through the ether, which is supposed to be an absolutely stationary medium. The motion of the earth relative to the ether must then be detectable. One of the easiest methods to observe this motion is the velocity of light with respect to the motion of the earth. Two American physicists, Albert Michelson (1852-1931) and Edward Morley (1838 - 1923) took up this problem in 1887. The aim was to measure the velocity of the earth relative to the stationary aether by measuring the difference between the velocities of light, they used a very delicate instrument called Michelson-Morley interferometer. After countless observations, they failed to detect any shift in the fringes.

Editor's note:

Even though Mr. Paul has an education up to 8th grade, he taught himself about the old history of cosmology which agrees with his theory and some new scientific information which either suits him or he interprets those in his own way.

This experiment helped us to disprove the existence of of Aether and eventually led Einstein to conclude that the speed of light is same on all moving objects and we got special theory of relativity

From this negative result, Mr. Paul concludes contrary to most accepted scientific conclusion (in the box on the right) Earth stands permanently at rest in the *aether*, while the sun and the whole of creation circled around the Earth. The experiments seemed to bring back the geocentric universe.

### **History of Astronomy (History of Solar System):**

??? Anaximander, Anaxaimenes, Xenophanes [576 B. C.] Anaxagoras [500 B. C.]., Thales [died 550 B. C.]. Pythagoras died about 500 B.C.], Thales [died 550 B. C.], Hipparchus [200 B.C.], Aristotle died 322 B.C.], Ptolemy second century A.D.], Tycho Brahe [1546-1601].

Greek astonomer Aristarchus [300 B. C.], Nikolaus Copernicus [1473-1543], Bruno, Galileo, Tycho's pu;il Johan Kepler [1571-1630]. Willam Herschel, Hally, and Newton believed that the daily rising and setting of the heavenly bodies by supporting

the Earth to turn round once in a day on its axis and around the Sun once in a year Figs. 6, 9 and 10.

Astronomy is one of the oldest of the sciences, its beginning are lost in antiquity. The origin of the arbitrary division of the calendar into weeks has been lost, but the fact that the days of the week were associated with heavenly bodies is well attested by their like Sunday (Sun's day), Saturday (Saturn's day), etc.

Very early in the history of civilization man must have felt the need for methods of reckoning time, and it is probable that astronomy developed out of this need. Ancient Indian, Chinese, Babylonians and Egyptian records show that considerable attention was given to the study of the heavenly bodies which were visible to the unaided eyes.

**Xenophanes** (570-475 B.C.) believed that the Sun and stars wore burning asses of vapour. The Sun, he thought, does not revolve round the Earth. It goes on in a straight line, and disappears in the remote distance in the evening. It is not the same Sun which rises the next morning. Every day a new Sun is formed out of the vapours of the sea.

**Pythagoras** (570-495 B.C.) recognized that the Earth to be a sphere, whose rotation explained the apparent of the heavens. He believed hat the Earth is the center of the Universe and the Sun revolves round the Earth once a year. (Fig. 2).

Anaximander (547-611 B. C.) wrote that the earth was in the center of the Universe. He was the first man to recognize that the heavens revolve around the Polar star and to teach that the visible dome of the sky is half of a complete sphere whose center is the Earth. He wrote there were three of the Earth, nearer to Earth was that of the Moon, and closest of all was that of the fixed stars. The heavenly bodies (planets) revolved around the Earth. The Earth in the center was believed by Anaximander to be not spherical but cylindrical, Men live on the top and of this cylinder.

**Philolaus** (500 B.C) put forward the view that the Center of the Universe was occupied, not by the Earth, but by a huge Central Fire, around this Fire the Earth revolved daily in a circle. He supposed that the Sun, Moon and planets all revolved,

like the Earth about the Fire. So did another mysterious body the Counter Earth, which, at Least in the imagination of Philolaus, revolved in an orbit between the Earth and the Fire. The effect of all of this was to account both for the daily rising at settings of the heavenly bodies, and also for the slow circulation of the Sun, Moon and the planets against the background of stars.

**Anaxagoras** (500 B. C.) was thus the first to give the true cause of the Moon's light. The Moon is made of Earth and reflects the light of the Sun. He was also the first to discover the true theory of eclipses.

**Plato**'s (428 - 348 B. C.) ideas of astronomy that the Earth as the center of the Universe. The stars and the Sun which are divine beings, revolve around the Earth. They necessarily move in circles, because the circle is the perfect figure. The stars, being divine, are governed solely by reason, and their movement must therefore be circular, because a circular motion is the motion of reason

## Fig. 2

The Babylonians pictured the Universe to be a closed chamber, with the Earth as its floor. Around the Earth lay an amount of water, beyond which stood high mountains supporting the dome of the heavens. The Babylonians recognized eclipses and predated the times that they would occur. They even fixed the length of the year as 365 days. They believed that the Earth was fixed at the center of the Universe, and that the heavenly bodies, including the sun, all went around the Earth in circles, **Thales** (624-546 B. C.) taught the Greek sailors to guide their ships by the Polar star and observed the natural division of the year into four seasons by the regular recurrence of the longest and shortest days of the year and of the two intervening days when the days and nights were (21 March and 23 September) of equal length. He successfully predicated an eclipse of the Sun. He believed the stars to be self

luminous bodies and the Moon light to be just a reflection from the Sun. He taught that the earth was a flat disk floating on water.

**Heraclides** (390-310 B.C) tried to account for the peculiar behavior of Venus and Mercury. These planets are never seen far from the Sun, and they appear sometimes on one side of it and sometimes on the other. Heraclides suggested that perhaps they each described a circle about the Sun, while the Sun revolved about the Earth

Fig. 8

**Aristarchus** (310-230 B.C), the Greek astronomer, also accounted for the daily rising and setting of the heavenly bodies by supposing the Earth to turn around once a day on its axis and the Earth revolving around the Sun once a year

Fig. 6

**Hipparchus** (190-120 B.C.) believed that the Earth is the center of the Universe and the Sun revolves round the Earth once a year

Fig. 3

**Aristotle** (384-322 B.C) proved to his own satisfaction that the heavenly bodies go round in circles while the Earth stands still in the middle. In the meantime almost everybody believed that the Earth stand still in the middle of the Universe, and the Sun revolving round the Earth

Fig. 5

**Ptolemy** (100-160 A. D.) published a book "Almagest". He believed that the Earth was at the center of the Universe, and the Sun, Moon and the planets revolved around the Earth. In the Middle Ages, Ptolemaic theory became part of the dogmatic philosophy to which all educated Europeans were expected to adhere

### Fig. 2

**Egyptian astronomers** thought of the sky as a cow with feet resting on the Earth, or as a woman supporting herself on hands and feet. Or they imagined it as a great sheet of water upon which the heavenly bodies sailed in boats. The Sun was for them a God sailing thus on the ocean of the sky, and descending at night beneath the Earth to visit the abode of the dead. Indian astronomers pictured the Earth as a short flat tea tray supporting on the backs of four elephants. The elephants, in turn, stood on the back of a huge tortoise. But what supported the tortoise? They did not answer.

**Aryabhata** (476-550 A. D.), an Indian astronomer, believed that the Earth moves by one 'Kala' in one-sixteenth of a 'Pala'. This means that he recognised the rotation of the Earth about its axis. But it is not clear whether he realised the revolution of the Earth round the Sun. Any way, he continued the *Brahmanas* tradition of regarding the Earth as moving. This tradition was unfortunately discarded by later Indian astronomers, following the lead of Brahmagupta (598-668 A.D).

**Nicolaus Copernicus** (1473-1543 A. D.) challenged the Ptolemic theory, maintaining that only the Moon revolved about the Earth, which rotated on its axis and together with the other planets, moved about the Sun. The Heliocentric theory was revived by the Copernicus who referred to Aristarchus,

Canon Joseph Settle, professor of astronomy in Rome, wrote an essay showing the correctness of the Copernican theory. But as an edict was still in force, condemning the Copernican theory, nobody would publish it.

Source: https://www.vanderbilt.edu/ AnS/physics/ astrocourses/ast203/ galileo\_chronology\_II.html

He repeatedly asked for a license to publish the same and the congregation of the Holy office met on 16th August 1820 and decided the issue the following:

"It was then decided and decreed that the Sun had gone round the Earth until that day, later the Earth went round the Sun" - by permission of the congregation of the Holy office

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The heavenly bodies (planets) the Sun, Moon Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are revolving round the Earth. The Earth to be a dead fixed star no life on the other planets I have discover it that the Earth is fixed (but turned and the Sun moves round the Earth once a year. The Moon revolves round the Earth once in 27 day and 8 hours. The sun revolves round the earth in 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes and 46 seconds, (the sun's orbit is not circular but elliptical) K. C. Paul each described a circle about the Sun, while the Sun revolved about the Earth (Fig. 8).

Paul believes the earth is rotating at one place in the universe and its only motion is rotating along its axis from west to east once every 23 hours, 56 minutes and 4 seconds. The sun, he claims, is lighter than earth and revolves around it in elliptical path tilted at an angle of 23.5 degrees to the equator once in 365 days, 5 hours 48 minutes and 46 seconds.

According to his theory, Mercury and Venus, which do not rotate which does all revolve around the sun and follow the sun's revolution around earth. I have been saying this since 1974 that we will never find life on Mars. Mars has two motions, rotation and revolution, while the earth has only one, rotation. Life can grow on earth but not on Mars," says Paul. In fact, unlike a lot of Kolkatans and they appear some times on one side of him and sometimes on the other. Paul suggesged that perhaps they each described a circle about the Sun. whiule the Sun revolved about the Earth Paul does not come across as a voracious reader; he has simply lifted no more than what he needs from the works of Plato, Aristotle, Ptolemy, Copernicus, Galileo and Kepler. Paul does not come across as a voracious reader, he has simplyy lifted no more than what he keeps an eye on the latest frbrlopments in the scientific world—be it the regent landing of National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (Nasa's) Curiosity rover on the surface of string theory—through newspapers and it has to do

Well on into the eighteenth century the ancient University of Paris taught that the motion of the Earth around the Sun was convenient but a false hypothesis while the newer American Universities like Harvard and Yale taught the Ptolemaic and Copernican system were equally tenable.

THE ROTATION: The Earth seems to be stationary, but in actual fact it is spinning around its axis once in 23 hour 56 minutes and 4 seconds and the Sun revolves round the Earth once in a year. The other neighboring bodies, [Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn] also made circuits round the Sun, each in a period of its own,

The axis is an imaginary line through the centre of the Earth, the northern end of which is called the North Pole and the southern end the South pole. Another imaginary inedrawn ??? round the Earth midway between the poles is called the Equator.

As the Earth rotates from west to east, any particular part of it gradually passes under the Sun and then it turns away from it, until at last the Sun is no longer visible. Any spot on the surface has day when it faces the Sun and night when it is turned away from it

## **Effects Of The Rotation Of The Earth**

- [1] Formation of day and night.
- [2] Deflection of winds and currents.
- [3] Occurrence of tide twice a day.
- [4] Longitudinal difference in time.

**Revolution Of The Sun**: The Sun goes around the Earth once in a year - 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes and 46 seconds. This annual movement of the Sun is called the revolution of the Sun. The path which the Sun describes around the Earth, is called the Sun's orbit and the plane in which this orbit lies is called the plane of the Sun's orbit.

# A documentary on Mr. Paul

Kolkata: A documentary about a man who has been plastering Kolkata's walls since the 1970s with his theory that the "Sun revolves around the Earth once in 365 days" has run into an unexpected hurdle. For documentary filmmaker Mithun Pramanik, who has made some Kolkata based documentaries for Al Jazeera channel, KC Paul's story is an inspiring survivor tale. "I respect his dedication to his vision. He lets go of a cushy life to follow his vision and has stuck to it for close to five decades. As a storyteller, that is inspiring for me", says Pramanik, who is making a 40-minute documentary on Paul's life. Pramanik first got the glimpse of the man through these scribblings on the walls. For Paul, it was the best way to reach out to people. "I spent my retirement money on buying paint for those graffiti. "I just wanted people to take notice", says Paul. The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has withheld permission for the film's release, reportedly on the ground that it is "anti-scientific". 'The Geocentric Man', a 40-minute documentary directed by Saumya Sengupta, is about self-proclaimed scientist Kartick Chandra Paul. It even carries a disclaimer that the movie isn't an endorsement of what Paul has been claiming. "Anti-scientific" may be the reason cited by CBFC insiders, but the reason furnished to the filmmakers has left them scratching their heads. The board viewed the documentary on January, 11, ???. On Tuesday, when Times of India (TOI) spoke to Kolkata CBFC's regional officer Samarat Bandopadhvay, he said "The applicant will know the details if he logs into his account." Producer Amit Kumar Ganguly, however, has found no meaning in the substance of this message, "The reason for refusal may please be elaborated and spelling of names in content may please be corrected. Resubmit only after the necessary correction are done."

The Venus and Mercury, are two satellites of the Sun and they each described a circle about the Sun while the Sun revolved about the Earth.

Documentary on Geocentric man called 'anti-scientific' denied nod

CFBC violating its own guideline says director

Flummoxed director Saumya Sengupta and producer Amit Kumar Ganguly went to meet CBFC's regional officer Samrat Bandopadhyay on Wednesday afternoon. "We waited for an audience with him. He, however, was in a rush to leave for Cuttack. All we could understand was that the documentary has been refused. When we told him that we needed to know the reason for the refusal, he said he couldn't remember and needed to look into the files. We have no idea what the 'spelling of names in the content' refers to'. "Are we supposed to change the name of the film? But we got no reply and were asked to return again on February 13," the producer said.

Sengupta and Ganguly pointed out that according to the CBFC website, a certificate is expected within 68 days. "With this new February 13 date, CBFC is violating its own guideline and taking 77 days to let us know what's gone wrong. There was no regional officer in December and we accepted the fact that the documentary couldn't be passed on time before we could send it for the National Awards. This inordinate delay is leaving a bitter taste," Sengupta said.

??? and his dogged approach that had got the director in interested in him as a subject. Sengupta first met Paul at the 2017 Kolkata Book Fair, was intrigued by his story and approached him to make the documentary last March. The story of how an Army constable posted at UP's Fatehgarh, who had no formal education beyond Class VIII, could dedicate his life to something so radical had left the director curious. "Sighting the North Star at one particular position in the sky got him thinking about the possibility of the Sun revolving around the Earth." Sengupta said.

The Army job was not Paul's calling and he returned to his Howrah home in 1979. He subsequently got a job at the state electricity board. "I find his journey fascinating," the director said, "In between, he had problems with his family and moved out to stay on a pavement on Rashbehari Avenue. After two years on the pavement, keeping people from stealing his goods, he made peace with his family and returned home. Now he stays on the verandah of his Howrah home. The pension he draws keeps his kitchen fire burning, though his day is spent propagating his geocentric concept," Sengupta added.

# **Media Coverage**

This new Cosmology was published in these newspapers AMARUJALA (Hindi) on 21st and 30 July 1974 and SAINIK (Hindi) on 15 July 1977 from Agra. PATRIOT (English) on 29th December 1974 and 21st June 1975 from Delhi. AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA (English) HINDUSTHAN STANDARD (English). on 9th February 1975 from Calcutta. IAI DESH (Hindi) on 6th June 1976, AJ (Hindi) on 7th July 8th September and 11th December 1976 GANDIW (Hindi) on 21st July 1976, SANTI MARG (Hindi) on 21st August 1076 from JUGANTAR i) on 11th May 1979 and 16th January 1981 from Calcutta, Published 1990.000 booklets and hand bills in English, Bengali and Hindi.

# **Media Exposure**

### **Coming Copernicus**

A SMALL, intense man peddling a pamphlet. Graffitist, proselytiser and general busy body. Making his presence in funatingly ??? felt in Calcutta's business district in the daytime, on local trains outbound from Howrah station in the evening. For some, K. C. Paul is a man with a mission. To most, he is a common pest, capitalising on the cicatrice of his insanlty, no better than the thousands of the halt and the lame plying theri trade in the metropolis.

But there is a vital difference: however hard you try, there's no getting away from Paul. He has left his signature on every wall, light post and fire hydrant in the city, like a toment marking territor. It's usually a less than comprehensible diagram of the solar system, with a slognn that explains it all: 'The sun goes around the earth once every year.' Five centuries after Copernicus and Galileo put the unverse right, K. C. Paul, 40, is still rooting for the anclents.

But not quite. In Paul's cosmology, "the flaws of the old geocentric systems cancel out but the earth remains centrestage." True, but Juplter and Saturn are forced into major detours in their orbits to keep the universe in order. Paul dismisses the fact as a

minor aberration. He certainly has no intention of fingering the few mysteries of nature.

So every morning, when most of Calcutta is still asleep, Paul hits the sreets armed with a bunch of pamphlets, a can of black paint and the clam cournge of his convictions. Over the last 16 years, he has covered every inch of the city and most of the suburbs. In the process, he has been manhandled, thrown off trams and buses in mid-sermon, even hauled away to a police station as a public menance ("The cops were too busy laughing to arest me"). But he remins supremely confident. There is just no way you can hold off the truth forever," he says.

In 1974 he made public his epoch making discovery. Had the earth moved around the sun once in year, the Pole star and the Hadley's Oetaal star wouldn't have been visible at the same positions in the North and the South Poles, argued Kartick Chandra. He also refuses to believe that the mass of the sun is much greater than that of the Earth. He can offer more than two dozen syllogisms at one breath.

Paul has been eyeball to eyeball with the establishment right from the day he made his 'discovery' in 1974. Then in the army, he whiled away the lonely night watches by tracking the stars. With a simple experiment, he 'proved' that the earth was stationery, and got his claims aired in *Amar Ujala*. The army was not impressed. In fact, Paul got pulled up: the data he supplied to the paper gave away his unit's position.

Today, Paul has a huge mailing list, where common cranks rub shoulders with the likes of the Royal Society, the Swedish Academy of Sciences and 45 Indian universities. Only a few replies have come in, mostly negative. NASA, for instance, was "dismayed" and wrote that they were "rather committed at this point of time to a well founded belief in a hellocentric solar system." And the Mars missions were doing fine, thank you, though Paul promised to shorten the round trip by six months. Only the Hare Krishnas were ecstatic. They were planning an earh-centred Vedlc planetarium and wanted help. "But their whole cosmology is wrong," grimaces Paul. "Very primitive."

Clently, it's going to remain a one-man show And an expensive one.)".

#### Calcutta's Copernicus

Anyone residing in Calcutta and its suburbs for the past seven years or so, could not have missed out on a particular graffiti adorning the crowded city walls. "The sun moves round the earth" reads the message - in both English and Bengali. Written by the same hand, the message is always accompanied by the signature of one K. C. Paul. The graffiti advertises two books (in English and Bengali) on astronomical theories - prices ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10. The address of K. C Paul also figures in head.

The man to dig up the long buried Copernicus Galileo controversy in this crazy city of ours, is an enigma called Kartick Chandra Paul. He usually goes around with a bag across his shoulder, lirne and ink stuffed in it and at every opportunity gets down to white washing the walls to write out his theory, "The sun moves around the earth." Not only on walls, but even on lamp posts or railings, Kartick Chandra's words of "wisdom" can easily be spotted.

Whenever you come across a man—inside a bus or a tram, at the Maidan or a busy street crossing - with a stick in his hand trying to explain something to curious onlookers, you can be sure he is none other than K. C. Paul. He urges people to carry out a simple experiment to confirm his theory. "Take iron pipes of 75 cm each. Attach one to the bar of a window facing the sun, another facing the morning star and the other towards the evening star. Look through the pipe facing the sun each day at eartn rotation time. You will find that after 15 days the sun is 15 degrees away from its original position while the morning and evening stars remain steady in their places." Thus, he establishes his theory that the sun moves round the earth. He, however, has 24 others syllogisms to support his theory.

Born in a arretmote village, Anullia, in the Howrah district and with formal education up to class VIII, Kartick had never dreamt of becoming an astronomer. He joined the army's Rajput regiment and eventually became a paratrooper. It was not before 1962, while in Fatehgarh (UP), that he turned towards the stars.

Several evenings he spent sitting under the open skies and watching the evening star to discern its position. Then he studied the sun for a number of months and found that it moved from its position in one direction for a period of six months and in another direction for the next six months. K. C. Paul was assured of a definite movement of the sun and he felt he was on the threshold of an epoch making "discovery".

Till this stage, Kartick Chandra had performed all his experiements without any scientific apparatus whatsoeyer. Later, at Ambala, he managed to purchase a telescope for Rs. 300. Through ti, he studied the stars and planets over and over again. He pondered over book on astronomy. This he carried on for 12 years and in 1974 became convinced that he was right.

The army nowever, showed scant respect to KertickChandra's sensational theory, 1979, he decided to quit returning to Howrah, he has since lived there on his army pension. Till date Kartick Chandra has spent nearly Rs. 60,000 out of this gratuity and provident fund to expound his theory. On an average, he snends around Rs. 3.500 every year, but is yet to receive much response. He definitely feels humiliated having to beat his own drums and tries to carry out his publicity work in the darknessof the evenings.

Kartick Chandra, however, never feels that all his efforts arein vain or that his money is being wasted. Inded, what really trustrates him, is not being able to teach his childrenthe things he has discoyered. Kartick Chandra realises that, at present, he is an object of ridicule. People, no matter young or old, always poke fun at him when he sells his books in buses or trams. "Some also call me a fraud or a madman, but I'm ready to put up with all this, "... he says. He argues; over Galileo and Copernicus had to sufer siilar humifiations in their quest for the truth.

Kartick Chandra has written to all astronomy institutions in India and abroad but very few of them have acknowledged his letters. The National Aeronautic and space Administration (NASA), Kennedy Space Centre, USA., wrote back to him; "You propound an interesting theory of great interest—but we do not intend to be involved in a debate over the merits of heliocentric as opposed to the geocentric solar system."

Nothing daunts Kartick Chandra in his missila of "truth"—not even physical aggression that occurs so often. On one occasion, he was on the verge of being beaten up by a group of irate university. Students in the College Street area Another time, he was mobbed at B.B.D. Bag for canvassing his books and was taken to the local Hare Street police station where fortunately, he was treated kindly by the officer in charge.

But them, shrugs Kartick Chandra, these are first minor hindrances which should not bother a person of his calibre striving for international recognition.

- Mita Chakraborty.

## Galileo Challenged: Does The Sun Circle The Earth?

BACK to square one. What modern scienists form Galileo in 1610 till date have propounded— the earth moves round the sun— seems to have been falsifled. The age-old theory that the Greek philosopher and mathematician Pythagorus in te sixth century BC, Ptolemy. Varahmihar, Ban Ghatta ??? and others till 6th cenury AD propounded— "the sun moves round the earth" being revived. While iresent day scientists are refusing to touch the theory even with a barge people, many laymen ae coming round to the view in Calcutta and its suburbs, with the local print media fuelling the theory.

The man to dig up the already buried controversy, as none other hand Kartik Chandra Paul, known to his friends as K. C. Pal, but who is still a non entity to the people outside the metroposis and its suburbs.

He urges people lotry this simple experiment.

Take three ironpipes of 75 cms each. Tie one to the bar of a window facing the sun, another to the morning star and yet another towards the evening star. Look through the pipe facing the sun, easch sidercalday time. You will find that after 15 days the sun is seen 15 away from the original place while the morning & evening stars stay put. Through this it is simply concluded that if the earth was moving the sun and the stars would be seen at different places. But this is not so. This is supposed to show that the suntmoves round the earth—and the old dis credited teheory gets its due

place of elary. of standing in the world but only a few acknowledge his letters. The Aeronautic, J. F. Kenedy Space Centre USA, as a typical instance, wrote back. It propound an interesting theory of great Interest — but we do not intend to be involved in a debate over the merits of helicentric as opposed to the geocentric solar system.

Born in a jeweller's family in 1940. Pal's schooling lasted till Class 8. He joined the Armed Forces in 1962 and was placed in the Rajput, Regiments parachute section. There he had to study planets and stars. His interest in solar systems grew, and his inquisitive mind learnt its rudimens. He retired from the service in 1979 but his interest in the solar system continued and acquired momentum.

All the monetary retirement benefits he got, he put in his passion and pursued vigoroutly. He has so far spen about Rs. 50,000 and he has written a book. "The sun Moves Round the earth. Whatever money he receives from sale of his books, he spends on his passion. He is a one man institution. He goes around the city, with his own's hands white washing the walls with llme and writesl— The sun moves round the earth, his address and the price of the book. On the occasion of any exhibition or fair be puls up his stall outside the venue.

His mission is to gain popularity for his bellef. He trudges on, on his own orbit whether people believe him or not, just as the earth moves around the sun— or is it the other way around.

Published from Delhi CURRENT on une 20, 1987 in India.

### The Tribhuvan Bhagat Character

The man who would move the Sun - Anish Gupta

Of all the graffiti on Calcutta's crowded walls none is as birarre as the one which says : "The sun goes round the earth once a year." The heretical slogan is signed K. C. Paul. and keeps appearing in new places, on slices of walls, lamp posts, railings,

roundabouts, in fact wherever the tarring hand finds space enough to inscribe these words of wisdom.

The slogans are in both Bengali and English and advertise a book on this astronomical coup with price tags varying between Rs. 5 and 10 in keeping with the economic status of the locality in which they apear. They also mention Paul's address in a far corner of Howrah, in the obvious hope that people will flock there to learn from Kartick Chandra Paul about what he believes in the most sensational discovery of the 20th century.

At first I suspected Paul's campaign— which has now lasted for almost seven years— to be a part of a mischievous venture funded by obscure revivalists playing pawn to some invisible hand. I had expected Paul to be an egotist sunk in the shastars, who lived by befuddling his audience with his mesmeric speech and unintelligible astrological scrolls. Instead, and much to my surprise. Kartick Paul turned out to be an exparatrooper of the Indian Army.

It was not difficult to find Paul's Sitalatala residence, a modest onestorey building with much greenery and open spaco around, in Howrah. He is famous in the locality, being known as the 'professor' who studies the sfars. Paul's neighbour, a chubby young man, who eagerly led me to his house, wanted to know if I too was a scholar like his friend. I told him I was not and that I came from a newspaper to find out what. K. C. Paul was trying to get at. At this, his cherubic face lit up, eyes widened. lips parted into a twoad, tootly smile, "Newspaper".

On the outside, however, Kartick's house looks different from all others. The exterior walls are pained white with curious, gaint-size diagrams in black, illustrating his theories on planetary motion. The sun the moon the planets, their orbital lines, as visualised by Kartick, and a multituded of captions and numerals form an indecipherable rigmarole.

It is time for him to come back, said Debika Paul, Kartick's fair, buxom wife as the day neared noon. She is not the leasn embarrassed over her husband'sourlandish

theories. Ever since they married 17 years ago, she has been Kartick, pursuing his Ideas with unflagging zeal and does not regret having married him.

Does she share her husband's views? Debika was not very sure. Much of what he says, she finds incoprehensible, "But he seems so confident and unrelenting that I am tempied to think he is right," she admitted.

However, what worrius her, a woman with four children, is that Kartick strains houself too much. he of Calcutta is still aslcep, Paul hits the streets armed with a bunch of pamphlets. can of black paint and the calm cournge of his convictions. Over the last 16 years, he has been manhandled, thrown off trams and buses in midsermon, even hauled away to a police station as a public menaces ("The cops were too busy laughing to arrest me"). But he remains supreconcely confiding here is just no way out can hold of the truth forever, he says.

Paul has been eyeball to eyeball with the establishment right from the day he made his 'discovery' ub 1974. Then in the army, he whilled away the lonely aight watches by tracking the stars. With a simple exoerunebtm ge 'proved' that the earth was stationery, and got his claims alred in *Amar Ujala*. The army was not impreessed. In fact, Paul got pulled up; the data he supplied to the paper gave away his unit's position.

Today, Paul has a huge mailing list, where common cranks rub shouldegs with the likes of the Royal Society, the Swedish Academy of Sciences and 45 Indian universities. Only a few replies have come in, mostly negative. NASA, for instance, was "dismayed" and wrote that they were "rather committed at ths point of time to a well founded belief in aheliocentric solar system." And the mars missions were doing fine thank you, though Paul promised to shorten the round trip by six months. Only the Hare Krishnas were ecstatic. They were planning an earthcentered. Vedic planetarium and wanted help. "But their whole cosmotogy is wrong," grimaces Paul. "Very primitive."

Clearly, its going to remain a one man show And an expensive one. Alre Paul has used up around A(K)kg of whitewash and tar paint and his printing costs have

crossed Rs 1 lakh. Besides, he is still ehurning out more books and pamphlets, each subtitled "Printed, Published and Discovered by K.C. Paul not by pothesis)".

#### A Place In The Sun

EVERY morning you can see the Sun rise in the east, sweep across during the day and set in the west in the evening. Like the Sun, the Moon and the stars always rise in the east and travel across the sky during the night to set in the west. Thus the idea that the Earth beneath your leet, stable, Solid and immobile, is at the centre of the universe, with the heavenly bodies going around it, seems most natural and commonsensical. But today every schoolboy knows that common sense is wrong, that the Eart moves, daily spinning oround its axis, rotaling oround the Sun in a year.

Four hundred years ago, before Copernicus, schoolboys were not as well informed. Nor were their elders better- informed. Becquse everyone—philosophers, theologians, astronomers, merchants, soilors, housewives andmindicants—believed that the Earth was of the centre of the universe. To maaine anything else was impossible for reason "not previously instructed" wrote Johonnes Kepler.

To be sure, there had been some dissenting voices. Aristarchus of Samos for instance, advanced the moving Earth theory, 250 years before Christ. But his views were not considered seriously. Probably becouse the fixed-Earth view seemed utterly self-evident. Also, it harmonised with of the time, that man is the meosure of all things and his Earth is the centre of creation and the universe.

It's also not that the ancients studied the skies less ardently. Claudius Ptolemoeus, better known as Ptolemy, was the man responsible for the Earthcentred model of the world. He is confessed to have gone into ecstacies while studying the stars. And his ochievements are not mean: "He named the stars, listed their brightness, named the stars, listed their brightness, sel down rules for predicting eclipses and gae good reasons for believing tht the Earth is a sphere," says Carl Sogon in Cosmos: "Perhaps most impartant, Ptolemy fried to understand why planets exhibit that strange, wandering motion against the background of distant constellation."

With Earth of its centre, Ptolemy's model was made into an ingenious machine with transparent spheres called epicycles containing the planets. The epicycles were, in turn, attached to a larger sphere through an off-centre wheel. As the wheel turned, the larger sphere moved, rotating the epicycle in the characteristic refrograde mothion of planets observed by ostromnomers from the Earth. The problem was how to reconcile the 'real motion' of the planet seen from the outside with the 'apparent molion' of the planet seen from the Earth centre, from the inside.

Still, it is important to note the Ptolemaic model provided reasonably accurate predictions of plonetary motion which were certainly good enough for the precision of measurement available in Ptolemy's day, and even mony centuries later," says Carl Sagan.

Ptolemy did admit that his geometric model was only a computational device and that he did not claim that the plonets actually describe epicyclic motion in physical space. However, astronomers preferred to patch up his theory and add further epicycles to the model every time they observed a discrepancy between the actual position of a planet and that predicted by the mochine. Soon the number of epicycles needed to make the Ptolemaic system work rose to 80!

Thus, the world of astronomy was seething and ready for change by teh 15th century.

Enter Copernicus: He was born or FEbruary 19, 1473, at Torun on the banks of the Vistula in eoslern Poland. He studied at the universities of Cracow and Padua and was a truely Renaissance man: he had mastered mediine, mathematics, jastronomy, law and theology; he knew many languoges including Greek and was somethin of a poel and an artist. SoysFred Hoyle in his rilliant little biography of the Polish polymath, "He coulcofford the many years of student life becouse there were no narrow specialists treading on his heels land he had a wealthy ordopled father who was pince Bishop of Warmial.

When Columbus discovered Americo, Copernicus was 10. the event prafoundly offected the young scholor; he turned wholeheorjedly of the views of Heroclides, who first suggested that the Eart is a sphere and that the apparent diurnal rotation of the

hecvens is due to the rotation of the lerrestrial sphere. When confronted by the old orgument, that rotation would couse the Earth to fly apart, Copernicus is said to pave reforted, how much more surely would the heavens fly apart if called on to rotate of a "Here we have the sound physical perception that the forces developed for a given rate of rotation are greater in a larger sys tem than in a small one although Copper nicus's, mognum opus De revolu tionibus is concentred mainly with absrfoc geometricos constructions.

It is well t remember that behind all this formal common sense lay a great deal of physical common sense. Indeed, common snse, or sound sense as we might more properly say, was the epiltome of Copernicus's life."

Copernicus eventually became a cannon of Fraoenberg and also a physition of wide renown. He was involved in economic reform and even served as Administrator General of all church property in Warmia.

From 1513 Copernicus seems to have begun his full scale work on astronomy. The qualitative aspects of his theor, however, must have been formed in his student days. Unlike Galileo, Copernicus seems to have had he full backing of the Church. The astronomer's ideas were known to Pepe Clement VII and Cardinal Schonberg wrote to Copernicus, urging full publication of the theory. Copernicus was so respected that the Church invited him to take part in the reform of the so-called Julian Colendor. Copernicus declined the offer, significantly, becouse the motion of the Sun and the Moon could not be occurately predicted with the Ptolemaci model.

In 1514 Copernicus privately circulated a short book, the Commentariolus (the Little Commentory), in which he set forth his main ideas. Although he had completed most of his calculations by the 1520s, his main book, De revolutionibus orbium coelestium (On the Revolutions of Heavenly Spheres) was not pubnlished until 1543 (around the time of his death) because Copernicus was reluctant to arouse further conroversy within the Church in addition to that already raging around Martin Luther's Reformation. Besides Copernicus was himself a canon.

Curiously, Copernicus held on to many orthodox astronomital ideas as well, for instance, the alleged superiority of circular motion and the circular orbitals of planets. His theory also could not provide direct evidence of the Earth's motion (it fumed up in the 19th century) nor could he provide for explanation for terrestrial motion.

Despite all this Choemicus is credited with the genersis of a revolution. Says Hayle, "In terms of predictive quality, there was little to choose between the new heliocentric theory and the theory of Ptolemy. The new theory was crucially important, however, just because of the intense emotional reoction to it. Emotional opposition to it was so strong (because of 'disladgement' of the fixed Earth with all attendant psychological and cultural spinoffes) thatthe astronomers come into the public eye and become impelled to observe the planets with increasing occuracy.

Upon the foundations laid by Copernicus, Gionts like Kepler and Newton could build loftier pinnacles of thought, to gaze further than ever before.

#### The Street intellectual

The man on the pavement has built a shelter of wood and plastic sheets next to a bus stop near Rashbehari Crossing, a busy intersection in south Kolkata, His mattress is placed on a platform. A mosquito net lies rolled in one corner. A steel trunk and a few carbdobard boxes are arranged around the bed, along with pots and pans, bottles and jars. on one side is an earthen stove with a heap of firewooed next to it.

"It is easy to find the place. There is only one Mamata style bus stop in the vicinity," the mand shouts on his mobile phone over the din of traffic. It is one of the new chiclooking bus stops, deigned to display as many advertisements as possible, that chief minister Mamata Banerjee has gifted the city she wants to turn into London. Glow signs stare at commuters from the back wall and from above the roof.

Kartick Chandr Paul, amateur astronomer and indefatigable graffiti artiste from Howrah across the river Hooghly, is no stranger to the streets of Kolkata. For more than the three decades, this 72-year-old former army *jawan* has been fighting a guerrilla war with paint brush and pamphlets in a doomed bid to establish the primacy

of a geocentric model of the universe against the accepted heliocentric one. Now he finds himself living on the same streets, still convinced that his theory is correct.

"All those who ignore me today will have to come back one day and admit that I was telling the truth," he says.

Kolkata has been long thought of as a city where everyone is allowed to have an opinion and the right to express it. A free exchange of ideas forms the curious Kolkata phenomenon, *adda*, or informal discussion, which often gets quite heated whether it takes place in the iconic Coffee House off College Street or at someone's house, a tea stall, or even in an open veranda. The same logic probably explains kolkata's ready participation in the freedom struggle under British rule and, much later, in the Naxal movement against the established social order in the 1960s and 1970s.

Sometimes an opinion is shouted out through loudspeakers and rammed down your throat. Sometimes, as with Paul, it is expressed quitely to anyone who cares to listen. "Kolkata has always been a city where opposites mix and coexist," says Debasis Bose, a doctor by profession who has written extensively on the city's history. "Take our cultural scene; People watch films, but they also go to the theatre and to *jatras* (folk theatre). In places where you have a concentration of non Bengalis, you might also come across performances of Ramlila (plays depicting various facets of Lord Ram's lige)."

Paul believes the earth is rooted to one place in the universe and its only motion is rotating along its axis from west to east onec every 23 hours, 56 minutes and 4 seconds. The sun, he claims, is lighter than earth and revolves around it in an elliptical path tilted at an angle of  $23^{1}/_{2}$  degrees to the equator once in 365 days, 5 hours and 46 seconds.

According to his theory, Mercury and Venus, which do not rotate, and Mars, which does, all revolved around the sun and follow the sun's revolution around earth.

"I have been saying since 1974 that we will never find life on Mars. Mars has two motions, rotation and revolution, while the earth has only one, rotation. Life can grow on earth but not on Mars," says Paul. IN fact, unlike a lot of Kolkatans, Paul does not come across as a voracious reader, he has simply lifted no more than what he needs from the works of Plato, Aristotle, Prtolemy, Copernicus, Galileo and Kepler.

Paul does not come across as voraclous reader, he has simply lifted no more than what he needs from the works of Plato, Aristotle, Ptolemy, Copemicus, Galileo and Kepler.

Although he has been living on the street for more than 10 months, since he left home, Paul keeps an eye on the latest developments in the scientifc world—be it the recent landing of National Aeronautis and Space Administration's (Nasa's) Curiosity rover on the surface of Mars or research in string theory—through newspapers and other periodicals.

Born in 1940, Pauls says he first became interested in astronomy after joining the army in 1962. He quit the forces, a few years later, but not his passion for stars and planets that helped him arrive at his present model of the universe. Without the credentials required to take part in scientific forums, Paul—like all true Kolkatans—took the fight to the streets.

Any visitor to Kolkata will easily identify it as a city full of graffiti, most of which is done by political parties who have in the past ignored court orders to paint their messages on walls. Spray-painted graffiti, like the one seen in other modern cites, has been a late entrant in Kolkata.

But Paul's has been a lone insistent voilce that has expressed itself wherever it could—the base of a lamp post, a portion of a wall—for decades. Mostly using capital letters in black against a whitewashed background, Paul has told the world that "The sun goes around the earth once in a year", and "All scientists all over the world are fools". He has signed his name undemeath each and gave us address and later, his mobile phone number.

Could Paul have done the same in any other city, or did he get away with it because of eccentricity? He came close to being beaten up twice and has been threatened now and then, but there has never been any sustained campaign to shut him up.

Maybe it has to do with the attitude of people here: They may not take part in what you do, they may even ignore you do, they may even ignore you, but they do not usually get in the way," says Bose.

Writer Nabarun Bhattacharya has a different take. "People of Kolkdata largely ignored the man and that gave him the licence to carry on with his fight," he says, describing Paul as "the real Fyataru", the fantasy characters who are capable of doing damage through subterfuge and who populate some of Bhattacharya's fiction.

Paul also sells books and pamphlets at minimum cost to anyone who is interested in his ideas. The publications are a curious medley of diagrams and texts containing his calculations as well as those of other astronomers, articles written on him in the media and scores of letters written in response to his theory.

For years, his family—wife and children—let him do what he wanted. But matters came to a head in late 2011 and Paul took to the streets. "I left home on Saptami during last year's Durga Puja," Paul says. "At home they wanted me to draw my army pension and sit tight."

The man's savings have nearly run out, but that has not dimmed his enthusiasm. "It takes balls to stand in front of a bus full of people, who all know that the hellocentric model is the accepted model of the universe, and to tell them othersise," says Artra Chakraborti, a researher who ecently met Paul near the planetarium. "I admire his zeat, says Bose, who has grown up watching Paul's graffiti. "I do not know the scientific validity of Paul's theory, but that does not make it any less important." The important qualities of his fight are defiance and dissidence." Maoist after he questioned the chief ininister at a political rally in Belpahari in West Midnapore district last mont. "What happened with Shiladitya is a terrible attack on human freedom," says Bhattacharya.

Not even remotely political, Paul's opinions are simply motivated by a desire to understand the world. For Kolkata to remain the city it has always claimed to be, it is important that Paul is allowed to speak, however eccentric his ideas may seem.

### **Grand Delusions**

An urban legend in Kolkata, who believes that the sun goes around the earth, is now the subject of a documentary film

CURIOSITY *The Indian* EXPRESS MATRTER OF BELIEF KC Paul points to the diagrams he makes to explain his theory

The documentary will talk about Paul's days in the army. 'I started reading about Copernicus theory when I was in the army. I started conducting my own experiments and came to the conclusion in 1974 that the sun goes around the earth'

ON THE tree-lined pavement across the Kalighat metro station in south Kolkata, where tea shacks, pice hotels and magazine stalls invite commuters to linger, a conversation with Kartik Chandra Paul is impossible without interruption "Ki dada? Enakeo bojachen apnar dhoper kotha (Are you feeding him your cock-and-bull theory too)?" taunts a passer by Paul continues undeterred, explaining to us the intricacies of his theory about the sun revolving around the earth and not viceversa. The self-proclaimed scientist and astronomer, who has been trying to prove this theory for almost 40 years now, has erned the dubious distinction of being a Kolkata relic. In his latest novel, *Grand Delusions*, Indrajit Hazra uses KC Paul as a metaphor for the city he inhabits — both steeped in delusions.

For decades, Paul's scribbling — "All scientists are fools" and "The sun goes around the earth" — on walls and lampposts around the city have made him a mystery for Kolkatans.

At the stretch of the pavement, which Paul calls home for the past few years (he has made himself a shack of laminated leaflets proclaiming his theories), he is the subject of continuous chiding, both good-natured and hostile. Tea-sellers serve tea with a

half-smile, and hawkers point out to his shack with a dismissive gesture. "I don't want to argue with the layman who doesn't understand science," says Paul, as he hands us copies of his books which he sells for Rs 5 each at busy junctures of the city. The books, as he refers to them, are little more than stapled photocopied leaflets with haphazardly pasted copies of various newspaper articles written on him. "I have written to NASA quite a number of times and they have written back to me twice. Both times — in 1974 and in the 1980s — they told me that they don't have the funds to help me in my research," says Paul.

Howevern, when you meet Paul in his cramped shack, talk to him while he prepares his meal and observe him while he slips into a clean shirt before he makes his daily rounds of Kolkata buses, it's difficult to be cynical about him. For documentary filmmaker Mithun Pramanik, who has made some Kolkata based documentaries for Aljazeera channel, KC Paul's story is an inspiring survivor tale. "I respect his dedication to his vision. He let go of a cushy life to follow his vision and has stuk to it for close to five decades. As a storyteller, that is inspiring for me," says Pramanik, who is making a 40-minute documentary on Paul's life.

The documentary will talk about Paul's days in the army (he joined the Indian Army as a jawan during the Sino-Indian war of 1962). "I started reading about Copernicus theory when I was in the army. I started conducting my own experiments and came to the conclusion in 1974 that the sun goes around the earth," says Paul. That's when he started inviting the wrath of the authorities and people around him. An interview with a Hindi newspaper about his theory cost him his job in the army. "I took up a job in the West Bengal State Electricity Board for 25 years to support my wife and children. Yet, I would keep propagating my theory after work by distributing pamphlets and through graffitis," says Paul.

Pramanik first got the glimpse of the man hrough these scribblings. For Paul, it was the best way to reach out to people. "I spent my retirement money on buying paint for those graffiti. I just wanted people to take notice," says Paul.

Paul has often faced tricky situations because of his campaign. "Once, I was selling leaflets in Sealdah where a science professor with a bunch of rogues came up to me and started abusing me and my theory. I was not intimidated and made them chase me to the nearest police station and then shouted for help.," says Paul. People from the science fraternity of the ciry, Paul claims, have been exceptionally hostile to him. "The professors and authorities of the Birla technological museum have barred me from distributing pamphlets. How can people in the field of science be so narrow-minded?" he asks.

Pramanik says Paul's family, too, is unhappy with his obsession, which is why he has no place at his family's two-storeyed house in Howrah, "It's actually a good thing that I don't live there. An old man ends up being little more than a domestic help. My wife has taken over my pension account and I feel I have done my bt for my family. Now I can dedicate my whole time to my cause," says Paul, with a smile.

# **Communication with Organizations**

Columbia University

Department of Astronomy

New York, N. Y. 10027

September 3, 1975

Dear Mr. Paul ???

Thank you for sending your article Solar system theory is wrong because the Moon and the Sun move round the earth (in figures). You may be sure it will be available for all the members of the department to red.

Sincerely

Anne Flagg

Administrative Assistant

\*\*\*

National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Florida

John F Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899

Reply to attn of PA-PIB

Dear Mr. Paul

October 14, 1975

Thank you for your recent letter. It propounds an interesting theory. We are enlosing a brochure on the "Exploration of the Solar System" which you may find of interest.

As you are aware, NASA has sent numerous probes to Mercury, Venus. Mars and Jupiter and one Spacecraft Pioneer 11 is now enroute ??? to Saturn. These probes has have found their marks by following the guide lines established by such scientists as

Copernicus and Kepler We are rather committed at this point to a well founded belief in a heliocentric Splar System. The geocentric concept espoused by ptolemy and other early scientists has been discredited by the passage of time and better information.

We do not intend to become involved in a moot debate over the merits of the heliooentric as opposed to a geocentric Solar System.

The sun-centered concept has worked for us and we will have to stick with it until something better comes along.

Cordially.

Dick Young
Public Information Branch
(Enclosures)

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## **National Aeronautics And Space Administration, Taxas**

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Houston, Texas 77058 Reply To Attn Of-Bf (Jsc Reg. No. 3-76-7204)

March 31, 1976

Dear Mr. Paul

Thank you for writing concerning your theory however the center does not have the resources manpower and funds available to provide an evaluation of the thousands of such papers received. The proposer should utilize local technical libraries, area university facilities and government publication and news local technical libraries, area university facilities and government publication and news media to determine if their theory has merit. We certainly wish you wish you success in your endeavours and appreciate your continuing interest in this country's Space Program.

H. T. Chrisman,

Industry Affairs Officer and Small Business Specialist

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**National Aeronautics And Space Administration, Texas** 

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Houston, Texas 77058

Reply To Attn Of-Bf (Jsc Reg. No.)

March 12. 1982

Dear Mr. Paul. Your pamphlet, "The Sun Moves Round the Earth", dismased NASA scientists, who thought that Copernicus and Galileo had disposed of Ptolemaic theory 400. years ago. They point out thought that Copernicus and Galileo had disposed of Ptolmaic theory 400 years ago. They point out that your theory cannot account for aberration of starlight due to Earth's orbital velocity, or parallax of the positions of nearby stars as the Earth moves from one side of the Sun to the other.

In addition, NASA spacecraft have left planet Earth, and followed trajectories predicted by Newton's laws to land on the Moon, and Mars, and fly close of venus, Mercury, Jupiter and Saturn.

The enclosed map of the solar system gives the data on planetary orbits used for these space missions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. I. L. Scott, Public Services Branch,

Office of subject Affairs.

(Enclosure)

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**ISKCON-Calcutta** 

Joyapataka Swami

3C, Albert Road, Calcutta-700017, India

26/2/84

Dear K. C. Paul,

Namaste I beg to acknowledge receipt of your brochure last night at the Calcutta Book Fair and I have noted the contents (The Sun moves around the Earth once in a year) carefully.

I appreciate; your research work on the subject of Cosmology very much as we are also studying the subject from the Vedic point of view. I am hoping that we may be able to assist each other in connection with the theories on imperfect observations and calculations. Your attempt to present a true picture is highly appreciated by us. I must repeat again.

Yours truly,

Joyapataka Swami

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Patrice Riemens, Amsterdam

September 12, 1992

Dear Mr Paul

Our representative in Calcutta having spotted several pasted fly papers of your astronomical theories and spoken highly of the same, we are considering inclusion of your work in the forthcoming issue of our Yearbook 'ARCADE'. This Year book will be issued for the fourth successive time next December. It has the formar of a stout pocket book nd is entirely hand stencilled. Could you please send us a selection of your pieces for consideration? Texts and drawings/schema's are both welcome. These should be on standard photocopying paper (same as this pae). clear and easy to reproduce by photo stencil equipment Suggested length. 5-6 pages, 10 maximu.

(ARCADE consists of 12-15 constributions by separate authors) Spince we are a small publishing bouse and ARCADE has a limited circulation of 250 copies we are sorry we can offer no payment if we decide to publish your work However we are enclosing a British Postal Order for two Pounds Sterling being ca Rs 110/- which should cover your mailing and photocopying costs. As the publication date is approaching rapidly, please be so kind as to send your material as soon as possible, by air mail, to some material on Ravun/Arcade. encl. BPO for Two Pounds Sterling. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Patrice Riemens
for Ravijn Publishers
ARCADE REDActe ???
p/a Jacob van Lennepstraat
260D-E NL 1953, AMSTERDAM

**Communication with Individuals** 

Mark Taylor, Australia

8-7-85

Dear Mr. Paul

Please could you send me a copy of your book (The sun revolves around the earth once a year). If you inform me of the cost I will be delighted to remit, the price of the book.

Your Sincerely,

Mark Taylor 10, Oatland crescent, Holland Park Brisbane, Q 4121, Australia

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Nalcolm R Green Friedrich, Germany

February 5, 1996

Dear Mr. Paul

Please would you send me a copy of your publication (Rs 25) on your revolutionary theory I have enclosed Rs 50, which will hopefully cover the cost of air said postage. If not please send me the book by sea. I look forward very much to reading your book.

with kindest regards

Nalcolm R Green Friedrich Ebert–Anlage 5369117 Heidelberg, Germany

Mirza Abbas Hussain

Bihar, 5-12-80

My dear Dr. K. C. Paul

I was present in the 67th session of the Indian Science Congress, Perhaps at 5 O'clock, I found a paper "The Sun moves around the Earth once a year". Please send me some papers in Hindi. Then I can broadcast by Bhagalpur Radio Station, for this

connection only reference of paper with me. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Sri Mirza Abbas Hussain (B. Sc)

Asanandpur, Bhagalpur, Pin-812002, India

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**Roop Krishen Kaw** 

22-2-79

Dear Sir,

I have gone through the paper bearing the new theory about the solar system. I was inspired by the new view of you. I and my friends appreciated the theory but still some doubts follow. For the clearance of those doubts, I need a booklet, rather a much more complicated booklet, so that I also may join you. I am a reader of Astrophysics in most of my time. I am a student of P. U. C. Class. Recent developments in astronomy have firmly established my quest for the reading of

astronomy.

Roop Krishen Kaw

S/o—Shree J. L. Kaw,

R/o—Zaindar Mohalla, Kamkadal, Srinagar, Kashmir, J & K State (INDIA)

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S. G. Mukheriee

KCP/VAT/III ???

Hooghly

15-2-81

Dear Sir

This is to acknowledge receipt of your 'Booklet' and 'papers' in which. The Sun moves round the Earth once a year) you have modified the views of Galileo and others in respect of the current 'Solar System theory I must the views of. Galileo and others in respect of the current 'Solar System theory I must congatulate you for 16th years of hard labour for your endeavour in trying to establish your new theory of the solar system; and also for spending of enermous amount of money in pridting and circulating the same to my, brothers for their study, as desired by you. Kindly send some more copies in English Hindi and Bengali, for distribution to my other brothers. I am enclosing postage stamps worth Rs. 1/- to cover postal expenses I gather that 90000 these booklets have been printed in different languages for distribution free of charge, to general public. Thanking you very much,

S. G. Mukheriee

I O.F.S. Fellow

S1 Netaji Subhash Avenue

Serampur, Hoogly 712201, India

**Timir Baran Mukherjee** 

29-5-80

Dear Sir

I have heard your discussion and new theory (The Sun, moves round, the Earth once a year) about new Cosmology. I am so much interested about this new Cosmology, In our Country, even wherever of this world a new theory is always rejected by the people at first found. Because the new theory is always bite the previous, So There have change to Joss all economic transaction based upon the old established theory, and its foundator. And what happen in the case of generali public and Country theory and its foundator, And What happen in the case of general public and countrymen. In all reading, Books, papers magazins, From primary stage teaches all the previouses. Even this teachings came in socially too therefore in future he does not believe anything except which he have teached. If anyone try to change this situation he must be do a hard stuaggle with establishment. We the general people only can advice you for work this stugging process with new inspiration. Real will must wine always. Lastly I request to you, please send me your details theory for discussion. With many thanks and best wishes to you. Future may bless you.

Yours faithfully

Timir Baran Mukherjee

C/o S. Mallick Ghosh

Gachi Para Road, Chandanpur 743101 India

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Golam Nabi Kadri

1-6-80

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your new theory (The Sun moves round the Earth once a year). I read it and appreciate your new research work. I am very much interested to study your work with greater details. Please send me your details theory for discussion with you.

Yours truly,

Swapan Kumar Majumder youth Leader 143, Netaji Subhash Road Diglipur, North Anadaman (India)

21.7-11-79

Dear Sir,

This is to acknowledge recipt of your new theory (The Sun moves round the Earth once a year). I have carefully gone through your theory, and I am moves round the Erarth once a year). I have crefully gone through your theory, and I am sending the same to my brothers for their study I must congratulate you.

Your faithfully, Golam Nabi Kadri Editor-Ajhare Hak Dubraipur, (Jallapur), Birbhum 731123, India

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Aloke Paul

7-3-80

Dear Sir

I am a student. I have read your hand bill about the conception on planetory system (new theory). I think that the hand bill is a valuable document so I wish to hance. Please send me a copy of your hand tall to the given address.

Yours faithfully, Aloke Paul

c/o Daniel Kristo Paul

232/1 Laxminarayaria Road, Rabindranagar Dum Dum Cantonment, Calcutta-700065, India

25-5-84

#### Dear Kartickda

I am a student of class-XII. Science of Govt. H. S. School, Daponid Arunachal pradesh. I want to know details about your new theory (The Sun moves round the earth once a year) I find my interest more in physics and that also in astronomy. I should be much happy if you would sent me a copy of the booklet. I congratulate you and wish you all the best for the furture. Your faitefully Sameerah Kumar Roy (sky), C/o Principal. Govt. H. S. School, P. O—Daporijo, Dis-Upper Subangiri, Arunachal Pradesh West Bengal. India.

28-5-84 Respected Mr. K. C. Paul. We are very much affected by your disisions in Cosmology (The Sun moves round the Earth once a year). We want to study your work in details because we are fond of Cosmology. Therefore, we are request you to send us a booklet and full details of your discoveries. We shall be very thankful to your Yours faithfully Ahok Kumar agarwalla, C/o Govindaram Agarwala, 208. Jamuna lal Bujaj Street, Calcutta-700007, India.

1-6-79 Dear Sir, Most respectful by I beg to state that your new theory about solar system is greatly effected me. I read your new theory (solar system theory is wrong) in a magazine and surprised very much. I am a student of science and very eager to read this naw theory in detail. I, therefor, request you to send this theory in detail. yours faithfully—Jitendra Kumar Sahu, C/o Sri Prahlad Sahu, at Jhariadih, L/129 (B) P-O—Adra, Dt.—Purulia, (W.B) India.

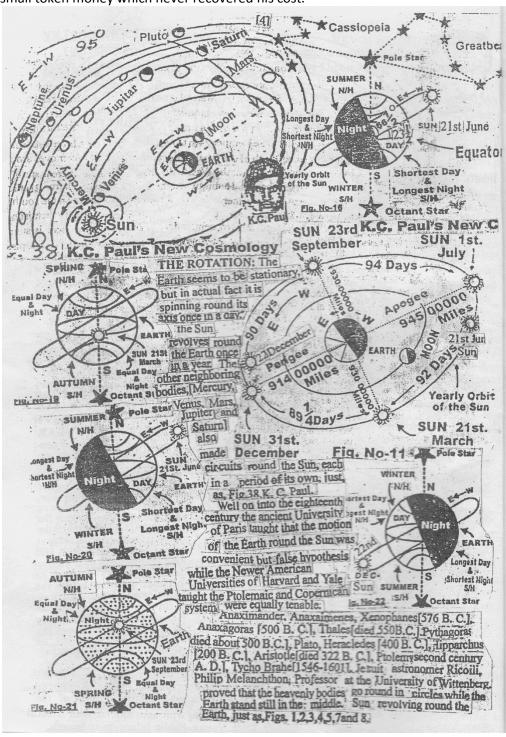
6-4-79 Dear Sir, Thank you for sending your new theory "The Sun moves round the Earth once a year" I read it, I found that the new theory is a marvelus theory which is given by you. This is to acknowledge receipt of your booklate. I am a teacher in physics. I appreciate your new theory. I hope tht this finds you in good health.

Yours' Truly, Sri Sushil Chandra Sarkar, Teacher (Science Depertment). Dinbata Soni—Devi Jaina H. S. School, P. O—Bara Atjabari, Dist Cuchbihar.

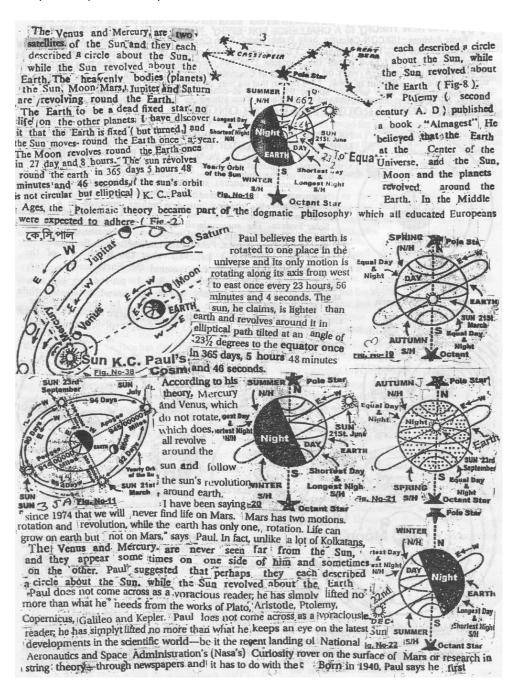
1-6-80 Dear Kartickda, I am very much glad to read your book name as "The sun moves round the earth". Unless that book is not mine but at a glance I have read from an unknown person. If you send me the book is not mine but at a glance I have read from an unknown person. If you send me the books, I wil distribute my friends and other members I am a student of M. Sc. in Mathamaties. My favorite subject is "Astronomy". For that purpose I want several "Dibakarbath". P-O—Indus. Dist-Bankara Pin—722205. (India)

## **Appendix 1**

A few pages from the booklets what Mr. Paul had been distributing to people on the streets, in the buses and every opportunity he got since 1974 either free or for a small token money which never recovered his cost.



You will notice that it is impossible to decipher what he tries to communicate clearly. To save the cost to make the booklets, he copied and pasted segments of newspaper articles and communication he had with people and organizations in a complete haphazard way.



To save space in those tiny booklets, he would often cut each line from a column printed in the newspaper, put 2 or 3 and sometime a fraction of a line in one line of his booklet. You can clear see the razor marked lines around those segments.

