

forces from the Jhang school in pre-independence Pakistan. I do not know how much formal knowledge of physics a lay reader would acquire from reading this book, but the lay reader and the professional physicist would both be inspired by Salam's openness and enthusiasm.

The other two physicists whose lectures appear in this book debate alternative approaches to theoretical physics—philosophical, mathematical, pragmatic and experimental. Their viewpoints do not always agree with Salam's: For example, Dirac is quite skeptical about unification and Heisenberg extols the S-matrix. Thus the inclusion of these other essays gives the reader some welcome perspective, as well as revealing recollections of a European intellectual world that was sundered by a previous dictator's insane egoism and destructive war.

Recalled in this book are the days of "string and sealing wax" in the Cavendish laboratory of the 1930s, and Crick and Watson's bicycle sheds of the 1950s, which are light years removed from the giant modern electronic "Nintendo" experiments at LEP and elsewhere. Has the recent revival of European particle physics been part of a general renaissance of European culture and intellectual ferment, or has it been accomplished by adopting and adapting a materialistic trans-Atlantic approach? The advance of science flourishes on a diet of cultural diversity, as shown by the stories of Al-Biruni and indeed Salam himself. The most advanced scientific culture in the Middle Ages was that of the ancestors of the Gulf War's "Nintendo" victims. We should remember this before patronizing their apparent inaptness for contemporary Western science and technology. Salam has devoted much of his own energy and prestige to encouraging scientific and intellectual culture in developing countries, notably at his International Centre for Theoretical Physics. Such efforts at intellectual unification should be more widespread if science is to maintain its healthy mutation and evolution. If this book gives to many readers as much food for thought as it did to me, it will help towards this goal of human unification.

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