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Jaina Relativism and Relativity Physics

By Jayant Burde

Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, India, 2014. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. First Edition. Einstein's theory of relativity which appeared in the early twentieth century. Shook many fundamental concepts in physics such as space, time, mass, energy and gravitation. However, it led to many misconceptions. Lay persons often equated it with the concept of non-absolutism, relativity or relativism which is found in many philosophical systems. Unfortunately, the theory spawned many misconceptions. Lay persons asserted, "Everything is relative", "You can go back in time". Those who were familiar with the western as well as eastern philosophy of relativism or relativity or non absolutism claimed, "Our ancestors talked about relativity long back" or "Our forebears had anticipated Einstein long ago." Most of these misperceptions stem from the fact that Einstein uses the word "relativity" for his theory in physics. Undoubtedly there are many theories of philosophical relativity. They assert on-absolutism of knowledge. Most of these theories are idealist which deny objective cognition and content that human knowledge does not reflect the objective world. In Jaina relativism called anekantavada or syadvada one finds a rare combination of non absolutism and objectivity. Anekantavada is one of the main pillars of Jaina...



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