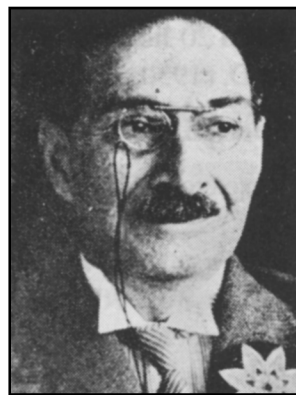


## WADIA, Darashaw Noshervanji

**Born:** October 23, 1883; Surat, Gujarat

**Elected:** Foundation Fellow

**Died:** 1969



Darashaw Noshervanji Wadia obtained MSc from University of Mumbai, Mumbai. He was also conferred DSc (*hc*). He was Professor of Geology (1907-21), Prince of Wales College (now Mahatma Gandhi College), Jammu; Assistant Superintendent, Geological Survey of India; Government Mineralogist (in Ceylon); Mineral Adviser, Government of India; First Director, Indian Bureau of Mines; and Head, Raw Materials Division, Atomic Energy Commission.

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wadia devoted his lifetime to solve the complex problems of Himalayan geology. He also made seminal contributions to our knowledge of mineral wealth of the country, especially with respect to copper, mica, atomic minerals as uranium and heavy minerals like monazite. He wrote many books including: *Geology of India* (Macmillan, 1919), and *Structure of the Himalayas* (1938).

**Other Contributions:** Wadia worked as Correspondent for the Geological Society of America. He was Honorary Member, German Geological Society, Belgian Geological Society, Geological Society of India (President, 1951-52), Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India (President, 1951-52), Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch, Indian Institute of Metals, and Geological Society of London (Commonwealth Member). He also served as Chairman, Central Board of Geophysics, also (first) President, Institute of Himalayan Geology; and several other bodies. The Institute of Himalayan Geology was re-named after him in recognition of his contributions to geology.

**Awards and Honours:** Professor Wadia received Leopold Von Plakette Medal of the German Geological Society, Meghnad Saha Medal by INSA (1962), Khaitan Gold Medal by Asiatic Society (1964), Sarbadhikari Gold Medal by University of Calcutta (1964), First National Professor in Geology, and Padma Bhushan (1962). He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of London, and President of the Calcutta Geographical Society (1938), Engineering Geological Society of India (1965-66), Geochemical Society of India (1965-67), INSA (1945-46), and Indian Science Congress (1942, 1943).

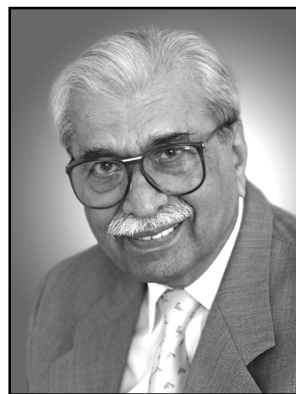
*The Indian National Science Academy has instituted 'Darashaw Noshervanji Wadia Medal' in his honour.*

## WADIA, Noshir Hormusjee

**Born:** January 20, 1925; Surat, Gujarat

**Elected:** 1986

**Address:** Director, Department of Neurology, Jaslok Hospital & Res Ctr, 15, Dr G Deshmukh Marg, Mumbai 400026; "Om Ratan", 6th Floor, 70 Pochkhanawala Road, Worli, Mumbai 400018; Tel: (022) 2367-4911-13 (O), 2496-4799, 2496-6045 (R); Email: wadianh@gmail.com



Noshir Hormusjee Wadia obtained MD (Medicine) (1950) from Grant Medical College, Mumbai, and MRCP from London. He was Registrar, Neurology to Lord Brain, National Hospital for Nervous Diseases (1952-56), and later at the London Hospital, where he was also Tutor at the Medical School. He returned to India in 1957 as Honorary Assistant Neurologist; and was Lecturer in Neurology (1961-68) and Honorary Professor (1968-82), Grant Medical College. On retirement, he was

appointed Consultant for Life at the Grant Medical College and JJ Hospital; concurrently, Director, Neurology Department at Jaslok Hospital and Research Centre (1973 to-date). He also received DSc (*hc*) from Banaras Hindu University (1999).

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wadia was deeply interested in the practice of 'clinical neurology' and taught it to undergraduates and postgraduates at the JJ Hospital, Grant Medical College, and Jaslok Hospital and Research Centre. He trained, mentored and promoted the careers of over 100 neurologists. He described several diseases not reported/prevalent in India, such as myelopathy of congenital atlanto-axial dislocation, Wilson's disease, tuberculous spinal meningitis, nutritional deficiency disorders, SMON, higher prevalence of multiple sclerosis in Parsees, and disseminated cysticercosis. He described two diseases not previously reported in the World: (i) a new form of heredo familial spinocerebellar degeneration with slow eye movements, (ii) neurological complications associated with epidemic conjunctivitis (Enterovirus 70 disease). The former autopsy confirmed that the condition was distinguishable from other earlier reports elsewhere by uniquely slow saccadic eye movements. It became the second genetically profiled ataxia when the gene was detected. Morphometry of the brain stem identified the degeneration of specific neurons causing the slow saccades, which contributed to the understanding of the anatomical basis of normal eye movements. The latter was a pandemic in 1971 in which conjunctivitis was the dominant presentation. He reported for the first time that in a few patients, a polio-like paralysis followed the eye infection and suspected a unique enterovirus; but no such agent was identified from Indian eyes. Japanese virologists isolated such new virus Enterovirus 70 (EV 70) and showed that this virus could spread to the nervous system causing a disabling paralysis. He authored over 130 articles, and the book '*Neurological Practice: An Indian Perspective*', an international resource book highlighting differential prevalence of neurological diseases amongst Indians adding to nosology of neurological diseases.

**Other Contributions:** Wadia set up one of the first Neurosciences Department within five years of his appointment, collaborating with colleagues at the JJ Hospital. In 1973 he organized another Department of Neurology at the Jaslok Hospital & Research Centre. He served as Member, Governing and Institute bodies of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (1981-2002); Chairman, Governing Body and President (Chancellor), Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (1995-2002). He also served on the Neurology Expert Committee of ICMR (1963-66) and Scientific Advisory Board of ICMR (1989-91).

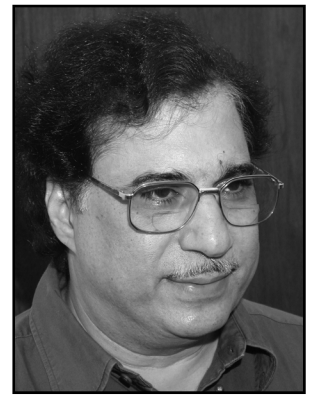
**Awards and Honours:** Dr Wadia was conferred the Certificate of Appreciation for Services to Neurology by World Federation of Neurology (1993), First Rameshwardas Birla National Award for an Outstanding Practising Clinician in Modern Medicine (1999), Lifetime Achievement Award in Medical Excellence by Harvard Medical International and Wockhardt Ltd for Pioneering and Immense Contributions in Speciality of Neurology, SS Bhatnagar Medal for Excellence in General Science by INSA (2003), Dhanvantari Award by Dhanvantari Medical Foundation for Outstanding Contribution in Medicine (2003), and Shree Dhanwantari Prize by INSA (2006). He was elected Fellow of the Indian Academy of Medical Sciences (1972), Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore (1983), and Royal College of Physicians, London (1970). He was also Honorary Member of the Sociedad Neurologica, Argentina (1961), Sociedad Chilena de Neurologica (1961), American Neurological Association (1977), Association of British Neurologists, UK (Foreign Member) (1979); and President, Neurological Society of India (1963-64). He is the first recipient of the prestigious Medal and Prize for Service to International Neurology (2009).

## WADIA, Spenta Rustom

**Born:** August 01, 1950

**Elected:** 1997

**Address:** Department of Theoretical Physics, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400005; 810, Bhaskara, TIFR Hsg Complex, Homi Bhabha Road, Mumbai 400005; Tel: (022) 2278-2216 (O), 2280-4723 (R); Email: wadia@tifr.res.in; Web: www.theory.tifr.res.in/~wadia

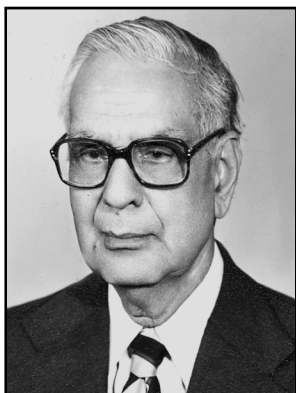


Spenta Rustom Wadia obtained BSc (1971) from University of Mumbai, MSc (1973) from IIT Kanpur, and PhD (1978) from City University of New York. Thereafter, he has worked as the Enrico Fermi Institute Fellow, University of Chicago (1978-80), as Staff Scientist, University of Chicago (1980-82), Faculty Member (1982), Distinguished Professor and Chair, Department of Theoretical Physics, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR). He is also Director, International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, TIFR.

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wadia's research contributions mainly cover quantum field theory, string theory and black hole physics. His notable researches relate to the discovery of the gauge fixing ambiguity in gauge theories, the 3<sup>rd</sup> order large N phase transition in gauge theories (Gross-Witten-Wadia transition) and its application to the resolution singularities in General Relativity, the dilaton black hole solution, non-critical string theory, emergence of new space/time dimension in string theory from Liouville mode, and microscopic derivation of Hawking radiation of the near-extremal D1-D5 black hole. He has also mentored seven students for PhD.

**Other Contributions:** Wadia contributed to the growth of the string theory and related theoretical physics activity in India and other Asian countries. He initiated the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences of TIFR in 2007 and also serves on the International Advisory Committee of the Annual String Theory Conference. He was Member, Commission on Mathematical Physics, International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) (1997-99-2002).

**Awards and Honours:** Professor Wadia was conferred many awards, notably the Distinguished Alumnus of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai (2009), JC Bose Fellowship by the Department of Science and Technology (2006), CV Raman Lecture Award by the Indian Physics Association (2005), TWAS Physics Prize (2004), and Steven Weinberg Prize by the Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy (1995). He was elected Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore (1992), New York Academy of Sciences (1997), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (1996), National Academy of Sciences (India), Allahabad (2000), the Academy of Sciences of the Developing World (TWAS), Trieste, Italy (2006). He was Staff Associate, Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy (1996-2001).



## **WAHI, Prem Nath**

**Born:** April 10, 1908; Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh

**Elected:** 1957

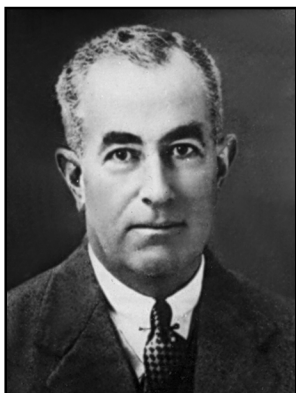
**Died:** July 08, 1991

Prem Nath Wahi obtained MD (1934) from University of Lucknow, MRCP (1938) and FRCP degrees from London, UK, and DSc (*hc*) from Agra and Bundelkhand universities. He worked as Professor of Pathology and Principal, SN Medical College, Agra; Vice-Chancellor, Agra University; and Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research.

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wahi's researches shed light on cancer of the oral cavity and its causal relationship with tobacco (chewing and smoking), also cancer of cervix uteri, and its relationship with marital status.

**Other Contributions:** Wahi served as Member of the Indian Association of Pathologists, Indian Medical Association, INSA Council, Medical Council of India, International Union against Cancer, WHO Global Research Advisory Committee and several other bodies. He also edited *Indian Journal of Medical Education*.

**Awards and Honours:** Professor Wahi won the Hewett Gold Medal by University of Lucknow (1932), Padma Bhushan (1970) and Sandoz Cancer Research Award by ICMR (1972). He received many lectureship awards, notably: Lady Brahmachari Oration by University of Calcutta (1964), Sir Nilratan Sarkar Oration by University of Calcutta (1964), International Cancer Cytology Oration (1971) and Bishambar Nath Chopra Lecture by INSA (1971). He was elected Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences (India), Allahabad, International Academy of Cytologists, Royal College of Physicians, London, Royal College of Pathologists, London, and Indian Academy of Specialists. He was Associate Member, Association of Cancer Research Workers (USA) and Honorary Member, Brazilian Cancer Society.



## **WARE, Sir Frank**

**Born:** February 22, 1886

**Elected:** Foundation Fellow

**Died:** December 06, 1968

Frank Ware obtained his MRCVS degree in 1907. He was in the Indian Veterinary Service and worked as Principal, Madras Veterinary College; Director, Veterinary Services, Chennai, and Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar; Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research; and Director, Animal Husbandry, United Provinces.

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Ware made contributions to protozoology, helminthology and other branches of veterinary science. He also organized several veterinary service establishments in India.

**Awards and Honours:** Sir Frank Ware was conferred CIE (1937) and also Knighted (1946). He was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

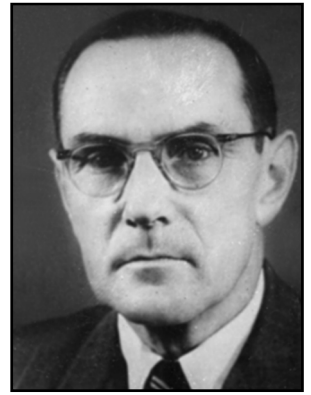
## WEST, William Dixon

**Born:** January 27, 1901; England, United Kingdom

**Elected:** Foundation Fellow

**Died:** July 1994

William Dixon West received ScD (1945) from University of Cambridge, UK, and DSc (*hc*) from Banaras Hindu University, Indian School of Mines and University of Saugor. He was Assistant Geologist (1923), Director (1945-47), Geological Survey of India; and Vice-Chancellor (1971-72), Emeritus Professor, Professor (1955), Department of Applied Geology, University of Saugor, Sagar.



**Academic and Research Achievements:** West worked in three major areas:

(i) the structure of the Archaean rocks in the Nagpur district, recognizing nappe structures; (ii) the structure of the Himalayan rocks in the Simla Hills, with the recognition of overthrusts; and (iii) Deccan Trap volcanicity. He also studied Indian earthquakes and the geology of part of Afghanistan north of the Hindu Kush.

**Other Contributions:** West rendered yeoman service to geological education in India. He built up the Geology Department of University of Saugor into a center of Advanced Study in Geology. He was Member of the Geological Society, London, Mineralogical Society of India, Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India, and INSA Council (1947-48, 1958-60, 1963-65).

**Awards and Honours:** Dr West was conferred many awards, notably: West Star of Afghanistan (1942), CIE (1947), Lyell Medal by Geological Society, London (1951), PN Bose Memorial Medal by Asiatic Society (1959) and DN Wadia Medal by INSA (1983). He was elected President of the Indian Science Congress (1971-72), Foundation Fellow, Geological Society of India; Fellow, National Academy of Sciences (India); Secretary (1945) and Vice-President, (1941-44, 1946, 1949), INSA.

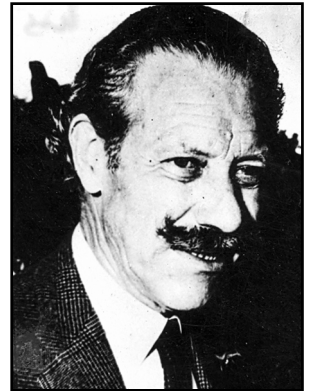
## WHEELER, Sir Robert Eric Mortimer

**Born:** September 10, 1890; Glasgow, United Kingdom

**Elected:** 1945

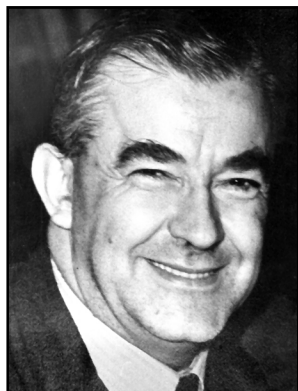
**Died:** July 22, 1976

Robert Eric Mortimer Wheeler obtained DLitt from University of London, UK, and DLitt (*hc*) from University of Bristol, UK. He served as British Archaeologist, Honorary Director, Institute of Archaeology, University of London (1935-44); Director-General of Archaeology, India (1944-48); Archaeological Adviser to the Government of Pakistan (1948-50); and Professor of Archaeology, Roman Provinces, University of London (1948-55).



**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wheeler was an outstanding archaeologist who directed a series of excavations at Colchester (1917-20), Carharbon (1921-23), Brecas (1924-25), Caerlon (1926-27), Sydney (1928-29), St Albans (1930-33), Maiden Castle, Dorset (1934-37), Brittany (1938), Normandy (1939), India (1944-48) and Pakistan (1941-50). He authored several works in archaeology, including: *Civilization of the Indus Valley and Beyond* and *The Indus Civilization and Ancient Pakistan*.

**Awards and Honours:** Sir Robert Eric Mortimer Wheeler was awarded Gold Medal by the Society of Antiquaries (1944), Petric Medal by the University of London (1951) and Lucy Wharton Drexel Medal (1952). He was elected President of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, Southeastern Union of Scientific Societies, Museums Association, Indian Museum Association, Pakistan Museum Association, Royal Archaeological Institute, Society of Antiquaries (also Vice President, Secretary, Director, and President), and Fellow of the British Academy (Secretary also) and University College of London.



## **WHEELER, Thomas Sherlock**

**Born:** April 30, 1899; Dublin, Ireland

**Elected:** Foundation Fellow

**Died:** December 13, 1962

Thomas Sherlock Wheeler obtained his PhD (1924) and DSc from University of London, UK. He worked as Senior Research Chemist, Winnigton (Cheshire), Research Laboratories, Imperial Chemical Industries; Principal and Professor, Organic Chemistry, Institute of Science, Mumbai; Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Mumbai; Consultant, Panjab and Patna universities; State Chemist, Ireland; and Chairman, Department of Chemistry, University College, Dublin.

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wheeler had specialized in organic, synthetic and physical chemistry. His work consisted of theoretical calculations including theory of liquids, organic chemistry including synthetic and mechanistic work, applied work on the development of industrial processes and analytical studies.

**Other Contributions:** Wheeler devoted much of his time to chemistry education both at school and at the university levels, and also did some historical work on Irish chemists. He served as and Member, Institute of Chemical Engineers (India) and Council Member, Indian Chemical Society.

**Awards and Honours:** Professor Wheeler was elected President of the Chemistry Section of Indian Science Congress (1939), Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences (Vice-President also), Institute of Physics, Institute of Chemistry, and Vice-President, INSA.

## **WRAIGHT, Ernest Alfred**

**Born:** March 05, 1879

**Elected:** Foundation Fellow

**Died:** August 25, 1946

Ernest Alfred Wraight obtained ARSM degree and had keen interest in the areas: mining and metallurgy. He served as Senior Demonstrator and Lecturer, Royal School of Mines (1903-14); Paymaster to RE Chatham and Supervising Pay-Master, RDC; Lt in RAF (1916-18) and Captain (1918-20); Aeronautical Inspection Directorate; Metallurgical Inspector (1925-37); and Collector of Excise (1934-37), Government of India.

**Academic and Research Achievements:** Wright made notable contributions to Indian mining and metallurgy.

**Other Contributions:** He served as Member, Institute of Mines and Metals and Iron and Steel Institute.

**Awards and Honours:** Wright received Matthey Prize by the Royal Society of Mines (1903), Carnegie Scholarship by Iron and Steel Institute (1904-06) and CIE (1935). He was elected Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, London.