

# Science Reporter

## RAMANUJAN'S BIRTHDAY MAGIC SQUARE

After my article on Little known facts about Ramanujan was published in the December 2012 issue of Science Reporter, I discussed Ramanujan's Magic square with some of my friends. My colleague, Dr. Vijayan, Professor, Chemistry department found out the logic used by Ramanujan to generate his "Birthday Magic Square".

The simple rule is given below:

A	B	C	D
D+1	C-1	B-3	A+3
B-2	A+2	D+2	C-2
C+1	D-1	A+1	B-1

A is the day, B is the month, C the first two digits of the year and D the last two digits of the year.

For example, if somebody's birthday is 21-10-1991: A = 21, B = 10, C = 19 and D = 91, his/her "Birthday Magic Square" is

21	10	19	91
92	18	07	24
08	23	93	17
20	90	22	09

All the readers of Science Reporter, who liked Ramanujan's Magic square, can now generate their own Birthday Magic Square!

Prof. K. Smiles Mascarenhas  
Dean (Academic Affairs)  
Coimbatore Institute of Engineering  
and Technology, Coimbatore

## HAVE YOUR SAY

If you feel strongly about any article or write-up published in *Science Reporter* or have some information to share with the readers, please write to us at the postal address given in the magazine or send an Email at [sr@niscair.res.in](mailto:sr@niscair.res.in).

## INSPIRATION FOR ALL

Little Known Facts About Srinivasan Ramanujan by Prof. K. Smiles Mascarenhas in the December 2012 issue was very informative and inspired me a lot. I would like to share one incident of Srinivasan Ramanujan. Once, he was sitting in his class and his teacher told him that if any number is divided by zero then the result is always zero. After listening to this statement he asked, "What will be the result if zero is divided by zero?" His teacher was speechless!

Really, Ramanujan was a great mathematician and an inspiration for all. Sakshi Saxena  
[sakshisaxena25@gmail.com](mailto:sakshisaxena25@gmail.com)

## OF SRINIVASAN RAMANUJAN

The feature article titled Little Known Facts About Srinivasan Ramanujan by Prof. K.S. Mascarenhas in the December 2012 issue covered a wide range of information on the life of one of the most outstanding mathematicians of his time and beyond.

I think it will not be out of place to mention in this context that Ramanujan's genius was first apparently recognized by Mr E.W. Middlemast of the Presidency College and Mr S. Narayana Iyer. And thereafter, Mr C.T.L. Griffith a Professor of engineering in the Madras Engineering College, played



a very significant and useful role in projecting his genius to the class of renowned

Reporter also deserves credit for its pioneering effort in publishing the LHC story elaborately. Debasis Ghosh  
Barrackpur (West Bengal)

## ZOO - A NATURAL TEACHER!

The cover story by Mr. Brij Kishor Gupta in the January issue of SR was very informative. The article emphasised that zoo is a natural teacher. Specially, the brief details about the National Zoo Policy, 1998 were very helpful. Hats off to the unique initiatives taken by many zoos, especially the adoption of an animal! Contributing a little from our pocket can ensure a



healthy life for an animal. This article is of utmost importance, when poaching is gradually decreasing our national heritage. Dipankar Roy  
Serampore (W.B.)

## PARTNERING BIG SCIENCE

The editorial on Era of Big Science published in the November issue of Science Reporter along with several articles related with mega projects was commendable. No doubt, these articles will give inspire students of school and colleges to take up big problems in scientific research. It is also a matter of pride for us that a number of famous scientists have played key roles in the mammoth LHC project and for which our notable scientific institutions can get credit. Besides this, Science

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