Bhabha ~~and TIFR~~ some personal reminiscences
- my indebtedness and an attempt at repayment

in 1956

When I was interviewed by Homi Bhabha and selected for a research assistant position at the TIFR, I had felt greatly indebted to Bhabha for providing me the opportunity to pursue my passion for physics. It was clear to me then as it is today, that without such an opportunity, I would be literally nowhere given the scenario that existed in most universities at that time.

Ever since, I have felt that I owe to Bhabha a debt which I must constantly attempt to repay. By giving me that opportunity I had felt that ~~I had~~ he had charged me with a duty to do my utmost to live up to his expectations to contribute to physics at the highest level that I can exert myself to. It was a solemn pledge that I seem to have undertaken subconciously.

I have been keenly aware that my intellectual faculties could not be compared favourably to with many of my distinguished colleagues but there could be placed no upper bounds to my commitment and determination to seek the truth no matter how distant it may appear to be. There could be no bounds on my zeal and passion in the pursuit of the beauty of truth; and there could be no bounds on the anticipation of the excitement that such a truth would entail

It was Bhabha who directly and indirectly who inspired me with his commitment, his penetrating insights through and his no-nonsense approach as I watched him during the early years of sojourn at TIFR.

* along these lines