

Ch:Motions of the Earth

Rotation:

Rotation is the movement of the Earth, on its axis.

The axis of the Earth, which is an imaginary line, makes an angle of $66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ with its orbital plane.

The portion facing the Sun experiences day, while the other half away from the Sun experiences night.

The circle that divides the day from night on the globe is called the circle of illumination.

The Earth takes about 24 hrs to complete one rotation around its axis, it is known as earthday.

Revolution

The movement of the Earth around the Sun in a fixed path or orbit is called revolution.

Earth takes 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days to revolve around the Sun.

Every fourth year, February is of 29 days instead of 28 days. Such a year with 366 days is called a leap year.

Earth is going around the Sun in an elliptical-orbit.

Seasons change due to change in the position of the Earth around the Sun.

Summer solstice is the position of the Earth when the Northern Hemisphere has the longest day and the shortest night. It

occurs on 21st June.

In the Southern Hemisphere, it is winter season at this time. The days are short and the nights are long.

Winter Solstice is the position of the earth when Southern Hemisphere has long days and shorter nights. In the Northern

Hemisphere, the days are short and the nights are long. It occurs on 22nd December.

On 21st March and September 23rd, direct rays of the sun fall on the equator and the whole earth experiences equal days

and equal nights. This is called an equinox.

Read the above passage throughly and try to understand and give the answer of the following question :

- 1.What is Rotation?
- 2.What is Revolution?
- 3.What is Orbital plane?
- 4.What is Leap year?

5.What is an Equinox?

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