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## Introduction to "Symmetry": The second quest

To cite this article: Richard Arnowitt 2009 *J. Phys.: Conf. Ser.* **196** 011007

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## Introduction to ``Symmetry'': the second quest

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Symmetries played a basic role in the discovery and elucidation of particles in high energy physics. It began in atomic physics, then was extended to the study of nuclear physics. In the sixties, there was an explosion of group theoretical methods applied to exploit the symmetry properties of physical systems. Symmetries existed in classical physics, but in quantum mechanics, with the superposition principle, one could use them to find the selection rules.

George Sudarshan played an important role in these advances, as you will hear from Sydney Meshkov and speakers following him in this session.



E. C. G. Sudarshan with two sons, daughter-in-law and two of his grandchildren.