

This charismatic religious figure said that if he was not a monk, he would be an engineer. Who is he?

## **Dalai Lama**

Taken to the monastery at Potala Palace in Lhasa as a child, the Dalai Lama recalled spending hours tinkering with mechanical gadgets left by his predecessors, including a brass telescope (which he used to view craters on the moon), clocks and watches, car engines, and an old movie projector. He became fascinated by the notion of scientific discovery, the intricacies of both machines and living beings, and the mysteries of the cosmos.

In the Dalai Lama's most recent book, *The Universe in a Single Atom: The convergence of Science and Spirituality*, he writes that no one who wants to understand the world "can ignore the basic insights of theories as a key to evolution, relativity, and quantum mechanics."

From M.J. Loftus' (Spring, 2007) article on Dalai Lama National Presidential Distinguished Professor - Dynamic forces: A convergence of science and spirituality, *Emory Magazine*.