



Royal
Astronomical
Society

The 2023 Group Achievement Award (A) is awarded to the MeerKAT Team

After more than a decade of development and operations, the MeerKAT team have, in a short time, achieved spectacular advances in radio astronomy. Amongst many breakthrough observations, the MeerKAT images of the Galactic Centre region revealed for the first time the amazing large-scale radio bubbles around Sgr A* and the evidence of a common origin for these bubbles. MeerKAT also tracked the radio afterglow of the first ever observed neutron star merger event and revealed powerful ejections from a stellar-mass black hole and contributed to the detection of the first afterglow from a gamma-ray burst detected by ground-based Cherenkov telescopes. As well as the extensive scientific output, MeerKAT has supported an intensive programme of human capital development in Africa, stress-tested the technology for the Square Kilometre Array and helped train the next generation of radio astronomers.

For these reasons the MeerKAT team are awarded the 2023 Group Achievement Award (A) of the RAS.