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Ramanujan's Place in the World of Mathematics

Essays Providing a Comparative Study

- ▶ Encourages bright students to pursue mathematics and exposes them to the enchanting world of Ramanujan
- ▶ Introduces many aspects of Ramanujan's mathematics and compares his work with other great mathematicians throughout history
- ▶ Appeals to the readers by presenting the life and work of not only Ramanujan but also of many other mathematical luminaries

This book is a collection of articles, all by the author, on the Indian mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan as well as on some of the greatest mathematicians in history whose lives and works have things in common with Ramanujan. It presents a unique comparative study of Ramanujan's spectacular discoveries and remarkable life with the monumental contributions of various mathematical luminaries, some of whom, like Ramanujan, overcame great difficulties in life. Also, among the articles are reviews of three important books on Ramanujan's mathematics and life. In addition, some aspects of Ramanujan's contributions, such as his remarkable formulae for the number π , his pathbreaking work in the theory of partitions, and his fundamental observations on quadratic forms, are discussed. Finally, the book describes various current efforts to ensure that the legacy of Ramanujan will be preserved and continue to thrive in the future. Thus the book is an enlightening study of Ramanujan as a mathematician and a human being.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Krishnaswami Alladi is professor of mathematics at the University of Florida, where he was the department chairman during 1998–2008. He received his PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1978. His research area is number theory, where he has made notable contributions. In 1987, during the Ramanujan Centennial in India, he got the inspiration to launch The Ramanujan Journal (now published by Springer), devoted to all areas of mathematics influenced by Ramanujan. He annually writes articles about Ramanujan and his place in the world of mathematics, for journals and newspapers.



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