

FOREWORD

Since the day of inception of the Institute for Studies in Theoretical Physics and Mathematics (IPM) in 1989, Mathematical Logic has been one of the main domains of activity at its School of Mathematics.

Briefly, through inviting a select number of prominent logicians from the republics of the former Soviet Union, activities in logic were initiated and the candle of interest was lit. This start was relatively successful in kindling interest in the subject in Iran. Furthermore, in those early days, an international congress and a summer school, both in logic, were organized and hosted by IPM, adding to the presence of the subject in Iran. Later, by establishing a Ph.D. program in Mathematical Logic at IPM, the cause was advanced with help from Iranian logicians educated abroad and the program in logic was consolidated. For more details, I refer you to the article in this volume by Professor Larijani, the Director of IPM.

Some three years ago, I proposed to our logic researchers at IPM the possibility of organizing another international workshop. This time our plan was focused on involving the Iranian logicians living abroad and getting help from them. We carried out this plan and it has been a complete success. Support from such logicians was a significant factor in the success of the workshop. I do not intend to add anything further about the workshop since I believe the list of its invited speakers and the list of its presentations provide sufficient manifestation of the success of the workshop.

But I would like to express, with great pleasure, my sincere gratitude to my friends, and IPM's fans, Iraj Kalantari and Ali Enayat. From distant places, they took time to participate in the planning and management of the workshop. Later, they continued in the same way and worked extensively with all, closing the distances through internet and email as if they were virtual officemates at IPM, to arrange for this volume to appear. I also wish to express my thanks to Mojtaba Moniri and Morteza Moniri who led the team of the local organizers.

A note about this proceedings: This is a truly significant contribution to the logic community in Iran and the rest of the world. All of the articles are bound to be of the highest caliber as they have been refereed with standards equal to those of the most prestigious journals. The three editors, Enayat,

Kalantari, and Mojtaba Moniri, indeed worked tirelessly to produce this wonderful volume. I thank ASL for arranging this proceedings to appear in the esteemed series of Lecture Notes in Logic.

Last but not least, I offer my deep appreciation to IPM and to other sponsors for financial support.

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