

## Preface

The present issue of the Tohoku Mathematical Journal (henceforth referred to as TMJ) is a special issue celebrating its centennial.

Professor Tsuruichi Hayashi founded TMJ at his own expense and with the help of his colleagues. The first issue of TMJ was published in July 1911, which was before the inauguration of the College of Science of Tôhoku Imperial University in September. The official name of the journal at that time was Tôhoku Mathematical Journal and the name was changed to Tohoku Mathematical Journal in 1999.

During these hundred years, we have experienced many wars including two world wars, and the world has changed dramatically. The publication of TMJ was interrupted during the Second World War, but never before or after.

On March 11 this year, a huge earthquake hit the Tohoku (which means “northeastern” in Japanese) area including the city of Sendai where Tohoku University is located. Many human lives were lost especially in the coastal area due to the tsunami. We express our condolences to those who were affected by this disaster. The mathematical institute has not suffered so much, and we are pleased that the publication of this centennial issue can go ahead as expected.

This issue consists of an article on the history of TMJ by Tadao Oda and 16 invited articles. Two of those are survey articles even though it is our policy not to include survey articles in ordinary issues of TMJ. We would like to express our cordial gratitude to the authors and the referees who spent much time and effort to achieve this publication. We also greatly appreciate the excellent articles contributed to TMJ in the last one hundred years by more than two thousand authors. We hope that we continue to receive excellent articles in the future.

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